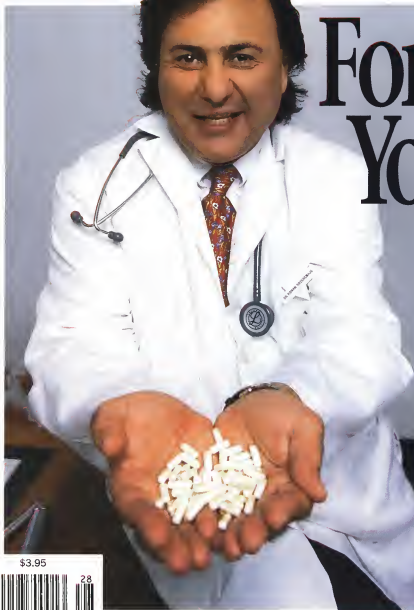


CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

JULY 14, 1997



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Forever
young

44 The baby boomers—led by those now entering their 50s—are giving new life to the ancient quest for perpetual youth. In Montreal, Dr. Ramon Rozenweig offers a controversial hormone-based approach to making aging bodies look and feel younger.



Green dreams

34 Bruce
Simmonds,
the president of
ClubLink Corp., is
betting that club
ownership will prove
as profitable in the
golf-course business
as it is in other
industries, from fast
food to furniture.



58 After a landing that featured a few bounces—as planned—the U.S. robotic spacecraft Pathfinder skied tumbling back. Spectacular images from the rock strewn, barren surface of Mars



From The Editor

Duplicity and cowardice



It was an inquiry that failed to stir much public interest, and it came to an exceedingly later ending. The final report of the commission of the Somalia scandal used what it termed "the vocabulary of shame" in accusing the once-proud Canadian military and the federal government of a "coverup" and "plain lies." The response was to let a flimsy "The Politics of Somalia" document dismiss the accusation as "unfair" and "arbitrary," even stating that a member of the commission was trying to profit personally from the saga. There were no heroes in the most serious military scandal in the history of the postwar period (page 12), certainly not those responsible for the killings and wounds of Somali children during the Canadian Airborne's humanitarian mission in 1993 and the "trophy photographs" that emerged later; certainly not those in the chain of command and in the department who dragged their feet, altered documents and tried to obstruct the work of the independent commission. Even the commissioners proved adept at conducting their own agenda and lost the public's support in endless re-examining and, at times, displays of outright bias. Then, too, we had, Art Eggebeen, the minister responsible man, aged to have a scandal that arose during the previous Tory government into a major problem for the Chrétien Liberals with a stylistic defence of the high command that paralleled over the years.

But there was no escaping the role and the need for major reform. The Somalia affair cast a pall over the majority of men and women in the Canadian Forces who do their duty with courage and honor. If for no other reason, the Canadian Forces have to clean house at the top. Sullied their proud record for peace-

keeping, Canadians this time stood shoulder to shoulder in the shadows with Italian and Belgian troops, who committed their own brutal atrocities on the ground in Somalia (page 20). "Dread to the left since Canadians," read the headline in *The Observer* of London when it did a roundup in June of the brutal acts committed against civilians by troops from the three nations. The Canadian soldiers were not so kind as the massacre of hundreds of Vietnamese civilians by American soldiers at My Lai in 1968 although the belated and accidental discovery of trouble by a Canadian reporter in Somalia was reminiscent of the initial unraveling of the dark secrets at My Lai. Ironically the Airborne from Canada's Camp Petawawa had issued a reporter from the local paper, the *Pembroke Observer*, to observe their mission in Somalia. But what Jim Day saw was a soldier being rushed to hospital after trying to kill himself in the wake of the Somali teenager's death. Like the looter night watchman who discovered a firestorm at the Watergate complex in Washington in 1972, Day's casual observation in Somalia led to the uncovering of the wider scandal.

Still, there is much about the affair that will remain in the darkest because of the government's refusal to extend the commission's mandate. The report, in fact, lists 12 areas of unexplained inquiry and criticism for government officials. "There is an insistence that it was outrageous and blinded our search for the truth." The real sin was that no few people seemed to care.

Robert Lewis



Jeremy Chamberlain
Editor of the Canadian Press

Newsroom Notes:

Health coverage

Of all the topics a newsmagazine covers, perhaps none touches more readers on a personal level than health care. Maclean's reinforced its commitment to the subject early this year, appointing Assistant Managing Editor Robert Marshall to oversee weekly coverage and adding the task to the responsibilities of Science and Technology Editor Mark Nichols. Along with the longer reports, the weekly Health Monitor page keeps watch on major developments in health-related fields.



Mark Nichols (right), co-moderator

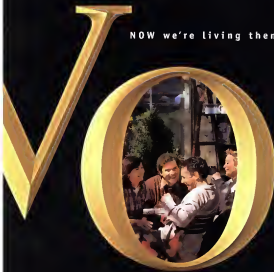


This week's cover stories examine the mystery of aging. "The quest for eternal youth is an ancient one," observes Nichols, 60, who wrote most of the package. "The question now is whether the modern scientists have found a hormonal solution, or are merely pursuing a false dream like their predecessors."

The new emphasis on health and medicine has produced reports on subjects as varied as the controversial therapeutic touch technique, gingerbread dieting, and the value of strength training. In April, a cover package explored the cause in nursing and went behind the scenes at Calgary's Bow Valley Hospital about its doors.

BACK THEN we had our dreams,

NOW we're living them.



Like friendship, crafted with care.



Those who appreciate quality enjoy it responsibly.

Healthy Bites

EIGHT Easy Ways to Improve Your Eating Habits

Eating healthily can make you feel better, look better and give you more energy. Research shows that it may even help prevent some chronic diseases like heart disease, osteoporosis and certain cancers. Here are some tips, consistent with Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating, to help you on the right-eating track.

1 Go for Variety

We need more than 40 different nutrients a day for healthy eating and no one food or food group supplies them all. Variety—more, less variety—is definitely less.

2 Accentuate the Positive

Surveys across the country show we should think about eating more — more fruits and vegetables, more whole grains and more milk products — eat and enjoy.

3 EAT MODERATE PORTIONS

Avoid big servings. Eat smaller portions of a larger variety of foods. If it's a recipe, eat, eat it in half. If there's too much on your plate at a restaurant, take some home.



Hunger is a method of weight control is overrated. People who skip meals tend to have more trouble controlling their weight. Eat regularly and always eat enough to feel satisfied, but not stuffed.

5 Reexamine Your Attitudes towards Food

Are you checking labels and buying food for what it doesn't have — like cholesterol, salt, sugar, fat? Think of buying food for what it does have — like vitamins, minerals, protein and carbohydrates.



Look Beyond Fat and Fibre
Yes, too much fat is inappropriate, as is the little fibre. However,

these are just two of the many nutritional elements that make up food. Good nutrition is much more. Ask yourself what other important nutrients foods contain.

7 MAKE YOUR SNACKS WORK FOR YOU

If you don't have time for regular meals, snack on nutritious foods. If convenience is a criterion, think fruit, nuts, cheese, yogurt, etc. Power snacking is a good way to help meet your nutrition needs.

8 Get Ticky with "Treat" Foods

Keeping high-calorie, low-nutrient foods like candy bars, chips and pop on hand all the time can be entirely too tempting. Leave them in the store. Having to go out to get them may help you think twice.

THE MAIL

38°C and more, leaving us in night sweats in a race. The steering wheels require a weight of 60 lb. at least to turn, the brakes require an excess of 150 lb. of force. They are top-of-the-line athletes physically and exceptionally mentally. They can be among the best all-around athletes in any sport.

Mark Rost
Mississauga, Ont.

Debating fatherhood

I am in total agreement with the editor's decision to allow Dr. Klay Tak Lee volunteer rights to his child ("What is a father?" Late, June 9). We hear much about devaluing fathers that it is very refreshing to see a man with the right to see his child from a selfish position. The mother says: "A sperm donor is not a father." Correct, but neither does a sperm donor pay child support, as Lee did. You can't have it both ways.

Gary Henrichs,
Windsor, Ont. (E)

Loss and logic

Philip Chubb of Elgin, Ont., suggests that Edgar Brechtman should advertise compensation for the Palestinian who lost property during the crime of the state of Israel ("Lost assets," The Mail, July 11). Something more sinister is hardly conceivable. Childs forgets that the Israelis won a war they were supposed to lose, having been attacked by their Sin Arabi neighbor. His compensation is also an admission of compensation for German property lost during the Second World War. Had the Arabs won the war, would they have compensated the Israelis?

J. Bill Greenwood,
Barrie, Ont. (E)

Retail service

In your article "Slam up Eaton's" (Passport, July 13), much is said about new personnel and chief executive officer George Kosch's efforts to deal with Eaton's loss of sales. I find it interesting that the word service is missing from the article. Having worked in the hotel and retail industries for more than 15 years, my experience is that there is very little distinction between food and a retail store in the eyes of the customer. The difference is customer service. Kosch is quoted as wanting "spectacular results" as sales. He also claims that employees will "finally know what it is to work hard." I sincerely hope for the sake of the Eaton's chain, that none of this hard work is directed towards serving the customer.

John Gaudin,
Toronto

EDITORIAL UPDATE

Maclean's Chinese Edition
This bi-monthly edition brings a distinctly Canadian approach to current affairs, business issues, and social trends in a format that is relevant to Chinese readers. **Subscription Enquiries: 1-800-395-4655.**

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Bin Voyage, Bin Travel Smart is guided with helpful hints for Canadians who travel abroad for both business and pleasure. Produced by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in partnership with private industry, this supplement will appear in the July 29 issue of Maclean's, on newsstands July 23.

Web Site News

Maclean's on the Web this week
Maclean's on the Web site news from a variety of stories from the current week's issue. Our address is <http://www.macleans.ca/macleans>

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MACLEAN'S is published weekly in midweek except for the summer months (June 14-15, 21-22, 28-29, July 5-6, 12-13, 19-20, 26-27, August 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23-24, 30-31, September 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, October 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, November 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30, December 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, January 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, February 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30, March 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, April 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, May 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23-24, 30-31, June 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, July 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, August 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23-24, 30-31, September 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, October 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, November 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30, December 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, January 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, February 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30, March 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, April 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, May 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23-24, 30-31, June 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, July 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26, August 2-3, 9-10, 16-17, 23-24, 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30-31, September 6

"Each and every person has the ability to effect change on this planet."

—Loch Houston, Canada Trust Scholarship Recipient



Patricia Poulin Loch Houston Jennifer Harrison Amy Nung

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Column



Barbara Amiel

Slogging through yet another social season

A great sigh of relief echoed over the vast expanse of mud that stretched as far as weather forecasters could see when the English summer returned to its proper form and rained "seasonably" really every day. "The wettest June since 1902," the BBC television weather commentator said happily. Hot weeds or had finally been washed back to the continent, where it belonged. At last, the British could slog through "the season" in proper still-supper discomfort.

Royal Ascot was a flurry of silk print dresses, worn over starchy waistcoats to keep out the cold, and feathered hats with black umbrellas to protect them. Parties during blacktie opera at Glyndebourne were spread out on thoroughly soaked grass attended by ladies with long dresses wearing plastic shoes. Wimbledon was an agony of delight. For a few days, there was a deliciously frightening chance that it might have to be cancelled entirely, for only the second time this century. Oh, the familiar worry of it all, with the accompanying chatter among tax-drawers, letters-to-the-editor and dinner-party guests. Finally, when the tournament was 196 matches behind, the sky remained for a few hours and play resumed with those ominous clouds covering that look like plastic sheets for bed wetters, ready for more rain.

These days, the English season begins in May with the Chelsea Flower Show and carries on through July. By the end, British lives are enlarged, stomachs gorged with strawberries and summer pudding, and guests direct themselves to the finishing line voting service to do it again—until next year.

The 1997 season has not been a smashing success for me. The day of our summer dinner party, my husband came down with a sudden virus and uncharacteristically, but Gansky-like, missed his own party. All of people most of whom only I knew tried to bluff my way through 300 guests without being able to introduce many of them to one another. It also happened to be the day that the British Tories were fighting over the selection of their new leader, and Tory left-winger Nick Clarke had signed a pact with right-winger John Birtwood.

"Don't give downers," a guest told me, "because I think there will be blood on the walls after Lady Thatcher finishes with Lord Tries." I started up the stairs instead, only to be greeted by a frenzied member of the Royal Family. "Is it true that you have that Greek gossip columnist downers?" she asked. It was true. She put a hand to her forehead. "Please," she said, "don't bring any more from my husband." Trapped in my own house, I tried to think where to go. The playwright, newly knighted Sir Cyprien Gaspard, watched with amusement. I could waste a scene forcing him to find a way in which I would not be a heroine.

At the Chelsea Flower Show, I stood like a fossilized tree trunk, paralyzed with fear that guests at The Telegraph garden, where I columned proceedings, would ask me a horticultural question. "Do you mind?" said a lady-as-a-mother. "Your poor shoes are destroying the plants." I had failed to identify a rare patch of artistically placed moss on which my totally inappropriate Manolo Blahnik affliction were standing, ready to trip-off to a party after the flower show.

By August, London is empty. The wealthy go to their castles in Scotland or villas in Tuscany, the middle classes go on holidays abroad, and the secretaries and nurses go to the British seaside or on package holidays in Portugal, Cyprus, Greece and Spain. The fact that summer is over (as you'll have any contact with the season as a measure of how society has changed) is her fascinating book *The Last Season of Pinar*, Angela Lambert traces the British season over the past three centuries. Its rituals, she explains, were based on three "motives": "The fate of the court and the great offices of the state, troops which honours, performance and audience desired, the aesthetic pull carried by the ornate statements and business of London, and the permanent ambition of the nobility to carry off its sons and daughters well." All the season's parties were in effect entertainment for the interrelated elite of British society. That by the end of the 19th century, "the invasion of industry and commerce, of Jewish financiers and American millionaires' daughters had diluted the aristocratic exclusivity of society."

This year may prove to be another sort of "last season." With the election of Tony Blair's new Labour Party, the rituals could change and a cooler season develop. No members of the Labour government were to be seen that year at Royal Ascot. There are signs that, if Labour becomes a permanent bureaucracy in the next year, that the Tories were 18 years, it will develop its own society. The government is gearing up to ban fox hunting as well as the parliamentary right of hereditary peers. The countryside will be overrun by loans and the sales of London by disinherited nobles like the remnants of deposed continental dynasties. And as Labour launches its campaign against the car, we already have stress in Labour where people are fined if they are discovered driving slowly on certain highways. "Who wants to go to dinner parties in buses?" asked one season-hating MP.

Meanwhile, the unions have started industrial action. British Airways employees have voted for striking strikes throughout the summer. That should keep London full of people as they slog out to Heathrow only to be turned back on the tarmac by Labour. His now decreed should have fewer entry cards and ought to have tails for any cars going into London.

Ah, well. The times may be changed, new customs devised and old rituals discarded. But the English predilection for food, drink, rain and the season is (if not) not amenable.

Opening Notes

Edited by BARBARA WICKENS

Bites and other outrages

It was, all concerned agreed, utterly disgusting that Mike Tyson bit Evander Holyfield's ear during their heavyweight bout in Las Vegas on June 28. Tyson claimed at first that he was "provoked," then offered a sweeping apology—no doubt hoping that his temporary law firm billing does not become a permanent one. In any event, the former heavyweight champion was not the first athlete to do something both stupid and vicious. Earlier examples:

- In 1959, Detroit Tigers outfielder Ty Cobb slashed the arm of Philadelphia's third baseman, Frank Baker, with his spiked shoes.
- While there was no disciplinary action, he was later suspended for fighting in the stands with a fan in New York City.
- On Dec. 12, 1923, Maple Leaf defenseman Red Horner slammed the Boston Bruins' Eddie Shore into the boards. The defenseman got up, flew down the ice and, mistaking Ace Bailey for Horner, flattened Bailey with a vicious check. Bailey suffered a fractured skull.
- Result: Bailey never played hockey again.
- On March 13, 1995, Montreal Canadiens forward Maurice "Rocket" Richard attacked Boston Bruins defenseman Mike Laycoe with his stick.
- Result: Richard was suspended for the rest of the season and the Stanley Cup playoffs, sporting a bloodied ear.
- On Sept. 28, 1969, in an NHL exhibition game in Ottawa, Boston defenseman Ed Green and St. Louis Blues left-winger Wayne Make got into a vicious stick-swinging battle in which Green's skull was fractured.



Tyson is not cheap but, with that little "puncher's yammer," he is.

Result: Green survived, but required a plate in his skull. The players were suspended for 30 games each.

- On Oct. 18, 1977, Los Angeles Laker Kareem Abdul-Jabbar punched Milwaukee Bucks rookie starllet Bamford, knocking him down.
- Result: The NBA fined Abdul-Jabbar \$5,000. A bone he fractured in his right hand healed in 20 games.
- On Jan. 6, 1994, a hug fired by Jeff Gillooly, the then-husband of figure skater Tamara Harding, smashed the right knee of rival skater Nancy Kerrigan with a metal bar, forcing her out of the U.S. Olympic trials.
- Result: Harding was stripped of her 1994 national championship title and banned for life from the United States Figure Skating Association for her part in the attack.
- On March 16, 1996, Chicago Bulls forward Dennis Rodman head-butted referee Ed Bernhardt.
- Result: The NBA suspended Rodman for six games without pay and fined him \$20,000.
- On Jan. 15, 1997, Rodman locked a photographer in the groin.
- Result: The NBA suspended Rodman for a maximum of 11 games, fined him \$25,000—and ordered him to meet with a counselor.

A Great Train Robber at the end of his line

For 32 years, he has remained within sight—but not reach—of British law. Ronnie Biggs was part of the casual gang that held up a Royal Mail train in 1963, getting away with \$2.6 million and worldwide notoriety as The Great Train Robber. Although he was arrested and sentenced to 30 years in jail, Biggs escaped less than two years later, touching down in Brazil, which has an extradition treaty with Britain, in 1970. Charles Watson, another escaped gang member, was arrested in Brazil, too, in 1967. Biggs claimed his freedom. Over the years, he posed with the Sex Pistols and granted interviews to documentary filmmakers. But now his long run may be ending. Most recently, the British government is expected to ratify a 2005 extradition treaty with Brazil. Britain may then begin proceedings to have the fugitive brought home to justice. Biggs, now 67, has told reporters that if the cops come calling, he is all through with running.

Persons, not statues

A Toronto-so-called Person-to-Person McConkey and Henrietta Muir Edwards—might have done more than any other Canadians to advance the rights of women, but their battle for recognition still gains on Calgary's city administration here, given thanks down to a proposal to erect two century-high statues of the quipsters in the city's Olympic Plaza. A report to city council says the site is intended to celebrate the legacy of the 1988 Winter Olympics, not politics. City council, which will make a final decision on July 14, could override the historic cranes, but there is opposition to the proposal. John Gosselin, Sask. Minister of Health, said in a letter to the city: "What in God's name do they have in mind with the Olympics?" Plenty, according to Frances Wiltgen, president of the Persons-a Foundation, which is lobbying for the statues. The women are best known for petitioning the Supreme Court in 1928 to rule that women should be recognized as "persons" under the BNA Act. At the time, women were barred from certain federal jobs because they were not deemed "persons." The court ruled against the women, but they successfully appealed that decision to the British Privy Council in 1929. "The fact they stood so hard against such odds," says Wiltgen, "is part of the Olympic spirit and Prairie ethic."



McConkey, the battle for recognition continues.

Double trouble

The Haskell Fine Library and Opera House has long been a source of local pride in Stamford, Conn., and Betty Lane, 61, two small towns located side by side along the Canada-U.S. border, 180 km southeast of Montreal. That is because the building, constructed in two phases in 1906 and 1907, actually straddles the border. A few years back, the charitable foundation that owns the facility decided to turn it into a tourist attraction by painting lines throughout to denote the boundary. But the town's unique location proved to be a bureaucratic nightmare during a renovation project that began last August. "Everything was two-hat," explains Warren Kim Pringley, a dual citizen. "People wouldn't believe how complicated it could be." The \$1-million project was headed largely by grants from the Canadian, U.S., British and French governments, as well as the municipalities. The foundation had to obtain approvals on both sides of the border and comply with two building codes, and everything had to be done in two languages. Moreover, the foundation hired Canadian to work on the Quebec side, which combines about two-thirds of the building, and American to work on the Vermont side. Matters also had to be brought to the United States or Canada, depending on where they were going to be used. "I think we all breathe a sigh of relief when the project was complete," says Pringley. "The construction companies aren't paid until it was finished. If you ever have anything like this to do again, don't call us."

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. *London, Edward Elmhurst* (1)
2. *Shaw's House, Peter Wells* (1)
3. *The End of Road Time, American Boy* (2)
4. *Run on Your Knees, Ann Marie McConkey* (2)
5. *The Father, John Gosselin* (7)
6. *Red to Red, Timothy Phillips* (8)
7. *Wind of Will, William Wells* (10)
8. *The Lightship, Jay, Jay, Jay, Jay, Jay* (10)
9. *The World, Neil Jones* (11)
10. *Andrew King, Paul Thomas* (11)

NONFICTION

1. *How to Kill a Man, John Gosselin* (1)
2. *The Mother, Michael Brown* (2)
3. *Angels, John, Paul Wells* (3)
4. *How to Kill a Man, Paul Wells* (3)
5. *The Father, John Gosselin* (7)
6. *Angels, John, Paul Wells* (10)
7. *How to Kill a Man, John Gosselin* (10)
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Passages



Robert Catlow, 64, the editorial editor of the *Financial Post* since 1977, of cancer, in his Toronto home. A 33-year veteran of the paper, Catlow was a steady hand during three changes of ownership and the *Post's* move from a weekly to a daily in 1988.

DIED: Robert Catlow, 64, the editorial editor of the *Financial Post* since 1977, of cancer, in his Toronto home. A 33-year veteran of the paper, Catlow was a steady hand during three changes of ownership and the *Post's* move from a weekly to a daily in 1988.

Detecting the truth

A star hockey, whose son-in-law, Scott, 36, is a pro, hotel and The *Alberta* newspaper, have made him one of the best-selling authors here, has penned a new investigative thriller. *Detective* It focuses on a Miami pre-teenaged cop, Michael Ainslie, whose life is turned upside down when he is taken to a death row inmate's confession.



A recipe to help gorillas and humans

At work, Kerry Bowman, a social worker at the Toronto Hospital, is interested in how culture influences people's lives. In his spare time, he studies apes. So when Bowman, 44, visited Africa recently to research the plight of the western lowland gorilla, it was only natural that he also study the local human inhabitants. During the month he spent in Cameroon and the Congo, Bowman collected troubling reports from central and west Africa that new roads cut through the jungle by logging companies have made it easier for poachers to hunt the already-endangered gorilla, as well as chimpanzees. The apes are butchered, skinned and shipped to the cities, where they are eaten. "This has gone from occasional domestic use in forest areas to a com-



Cooking gorilla meat endangered.

monate trade to poachers to urban areas, for instance, that it is, in fact, bad to hunt the apes, and that they are very beautiful. "It is not a very well-informed area," says Bowman. "I have two chimpanzees on TV selling them. You can see, in fact, most of them have never seen the animals live."

SENTENCED: To 30 years in prison the so-called P.E.I. bomber, Roger Gell, 53, after pleading guilty in a Charlottetown courthouse. The former chemistry teacher admitted planting four pipe bombs including one that rocked the P.E.I. legislature in 1995.

PLEADED: Not guilty to charges of smuggling heroin into Japan, Simon, Ont.-born Rick Breen, 53, a founding member of the legendary rock group The Band. Breen, arrested while on tour in Maryland, said District Court panel says that he had asked his wife to send him cocaine, not the alleged drug. The three-judge panel hearing the case will rule on July 25.

RETIRED: Distance runner Angela Chalmers, 30, who was one of Canada's most successful track stars. She, Mississauga, Ont., who was a bronze medalist in the 3,000 m at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, and four gold medals at various Commonwealth Games, said from her home in Victoria she no longer had the spark she needed to compete after injuring herself in training before the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

WON: By Swiss tennis sensation Martina Hingis, 26, the women's singles title at England's Wimbledon tennis tournament. Hingis, who moved from a fifth seed to beat 20-year-old Czech veteran Anna Kournikova, is the youngest Wimbledon champion in history.

Bitter to the end

The Somalia inquiry takes its best shot—and Ottawa fires back

SPECIAL REPORT



Egyptian: "This happened four years ago. The time for pointing fingers is past."

BY JOHN DeMONT

Hindsight is a wonderful thing. If only Prime Minister Brian Mulroney had not jumped at U.S. President George Bush's request to send Canadian troops to Somalia in 1992. If only the Canadian Forces brass had not pushed for a higher-profile role in the mission in an effort to bolster the military's image. If only military leaders had heeded warnings that the members of one of their most elite units were poorly trained, undisciplined and ill-equipped for the job. Then maybe the whole sorry saga known as the Somalia Affair would never have occurred. And Canadians would never have been subjected to the sordid tale of military incompetence, duplicity, cowardice and brutality that the independent inquiry into the ill-fated mission laid out in such telling detail last week, or witnessed the sight of the federal government waging a relentless campaign against the commission, which concluded that the nation's military system is "rotten to the core."

So how has federal public inquiry been so slow and unimpassioned? The three commissioners called for a full-scale criminal investigation into the March 4, 1993, shooting by Canadian soldiers of two Somalis, one of whom died. They urged the government to look into possible peccadillo charges against senior military officials who, the commissioners said, lied on the witness stand. And they flatly concluded that without genuine change in the military—including a purge of the top brass—a repeat of the African debacle is almost certain. "The sorry sequence of events in

Commissioners Létourneau, Mulholland and Desbarats: "the government was not committed to the inquiry"



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE COMMISSION



Mulholland (top) and Desbarats: a call for massive change in the military

Somalia was not the work of a few bad apples," concluded chairman Gilles Létourneau, a Federal Court of Canada judge. "But the inevitable result of systemic organizational and leadership failures, many occurring over long periods of time and ignored by our military leaders for just as long."

Yet the Liberal government's angry reaction to the report seems to stink the deck against real reform. The most controversial move came last January when then Defence Minister Doug Young decided to end the inquiry's hearings at a time when the commissioners insisted they would

have no chance to hear critical witnesses or probe some of the most fundamental questions on the whole affair. And although Conservative senators vowed to hold hearings into what the Somalia inquiry did not have time to consider—the torture-killing of Somali teenager Mukhtar Arbee—Liberal senators quashed their bid well before the June 3 election call.

Last week the government—bolstered by polls showing that Canadians have generally lost interest in the Somalia debacle—adopted a conciliatory stance. "There was no cover," declared Prime Minister Jean Chrétien as he emerged from his weekly caucus meeting. Defence Minister Art Eggleton rejected outright the inquiry's 2,000-page report, instead attacking the integrity of commissioner Peter Desbarats, former dean of the University of Western Ontario's journalism program, who had signed a contract to write a book about the inquiry. "There is no evidence of a conspiracy," Eggleton told reporters. And, he added, "this happened four years ago. The time for pointing fingers is past."

In fact, there were several signs that the Liberals were interested in doing some finger-pointing of their own—at the commissioners themselves, along with members of the media. As with all major events, the government's public reaction to the release of the Somalia report was coordinated in advance by the Prime Minister's Office—on this occasion working in conjunction with Eggleton and his staff. Eggleton, said one Liberal insider, decided to intervene first "the earlier we got in to stamp out any chatter what was said, so he acted as well fight fire with fire."

As well, some Liberals suggested that Eggleton felt it important to look especially decisive in order to win the confidence of senior officers. From the outset, the Liberals expected the report to be tough on them—and suggested, in part, that the commissioners were constrained by their frustration over the decision to end the hearings. "We gave them guys \$20 million and 27 months, and it still wasn't enough for them," complained one PMO official. "How much is enough?" The Liberals also claim that up to three quarters of the report's recommendations have already been implemented, or will be. That includes a Defence ethics training program for personnel, a strengthened process of operational-readiness training programs and changes to professional development programs for officers. The intent, said the PMO official, "is to turn the page on this episode, but not to let it right out of the book."

The Liberals privately appear to believe that few Canadians are interested in quelling the controversy part of their nuclear reading. "We are in the election campaign how much people care about Somalia," said one senior Liberal staffer—suggesting that the issue never became a factor. But some Liberals concede that there is a danger that Eggleton, through the vehemence of his remarks, made his own case against support simultaneously arrogant and defensive. "It was not," said one Liberal strategist outside the government, "our best communications moment."

The Somalia affair has already dented several high-flying military careers, costed four national defence ministers and dogged former

justice minister Kim Campbell in the 1993 election campaign. Then, Chretien and the Liberals scuttled the Conservative government of attempts to cover up the scandal—and replaced it with a public inquiry to get to the bottom of it. Now, that inquiry's report—and the government's fail to bury it—will haunt the Liberals when the new Parliament convenes in the fall.

The roots of the scandal go back to 1982 and a telephone call from George Bush to his friend Brent Malmgren—known for marching in lockstep with the Americans. Bush invited Canada to join the U.S.-led relief mission to restore Somalia. Top Defense officials—including chief of staff Gen. John de Chastelain and deputy minister of defense Robert Fowler, who would emerge as two of the central characters in the ensuing disaster—followed the mission. Their instruction, according to the Somalia commission's report, finding a prominent role in a high-profile mission to restore the memory of the mass participation of Canada's military in the Gulf War. "A role that was seen as secondary would not fit with the troops, with us, with the government or with Canadians," the report wrote. de Chastelain is commander Colin Powell, then chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Instead of glory, Somalia brought agony. With the army's resources stretched to the limit, the only troops available for the mission were the Canadian Airborne Regiment, an assault fighting unit with a lineage dating back to the heroics of Canadian paratroopers during the Second World War. But as the inquiry report unfolded, the Airborne—trained for combat, not peacekeeping—was an appalling bad choice for the African mission. In addition, it was undergoing troop turmoil: about 200 of its 660 members had been, the Airborne had recently lost 200 of its 660 members. Adding to the confusion was that, just weeks before leaving for Africa, commanding officer Lt.-Col. Paul Miletich—who had lost the previous Airborne command—was suddenly fired and replaced by Lt.-Col. Carol Maitreux.

As the inquiry's report makes clear, the frame of mind among cen-

Systems broke down and organizational discipline crumbled. Such faults cannot be divorced from leadership responsibility, and the leadership errors in the Somalia mission were fundamental: the systems in place were inadequate; practices that placed individual ambition ahead of the needs of the mission had become entrenched; even when disturbing accounts of indiscipline and thuggery were known, there was disturbing inaction; subordinates were held to standards of responsibility by which many of those above were not prepared to abide. Our soldiers searched, often in vain, for leadership and inspiration.



Seldom has a public inquiry been so blunt

Departing for Somalia: without reform, the inquiry says that a repeat of the debacle is almost certain

tain Airborne members were well-known to military leaders—and worse: one soldier, citing them selves the "Rebels," acted as though they were a few units themselves. Against orders, they repeatedly routed the American Camelbacks that in their barracks at Camp Petrusawa, 150 km northwest of Ottawa. They taught the use of a sergeant who missed their aim. And even by combat unit standards, some Airborne troops showed excessive aggressiveness in the view of senior officers. Those concerns proved prophetic: among the most volatile troops was Cpl. Clayton MacIsaac—also a Rebel member—who mouthed participation in Africa's torture and killing.

Preparation for the mission "fell far short of what was required," concluded the report. For one thing, the unit's rules of engagement, which outlined where and when to use deadly force, were never clear. In an interview with Miletich after the release of the report, Lt. Miletich pointed out that planning at headquarters in Ottawa was so bad that soldiers were deployed with equipment at better suited for the Arctic than the African desert—heavy leather boots, thick sweaters and steel helmets made for colder temperatures, as well as regulations that left soldiers with hot water to quench their thirst in the desert heat. They were told to "smear their bodies" if they got hot.

Just how poorly prepared they were became apparent when the troops finally arrived in Somalia in December, 1992. Splitting from their Hercules transport planes onto the war-torn sand, they cravenly found scorching 40° C heat—and an arid, African country with seemingly insurmountable problems. Denied aerial tribal intel, Somalia was dominated by bands of heavily armed Islamic war-clad militia who in the streets and countryside. Canadian soldiers were given the task of securing an area around the central Somali town of Held Hesen so food could be distributed to the starving citizens.

The report acknowledges that they started the mission with enthusiasm—tough paratroopers who, although ready for conflict, genuinely wanted to help the Somalis. But the road quickly widened under the unwelcome hostility of the locals. The Canadians were harassed and threatened as they tried to rebuild bridges, roads and hospitals destroyed in the war. Once, they were pelted with stones while working a field cemetery. Even worse: galling was the account around of desperate Somalis impeding into the Canadian compound at night to steal food and anything else they could scavenge. Nerves grew

strained. The Canadians became increasingly frustrated about spending too much time routing out flowers and too little fulfilling their humanitarian mission. This deepening sense of despair, concluded the inquiry report, led to the fatal events of the night of March 4, 1993.

It was all very calculated. Using food and water as bait, a team of Canadian soldiers, including a sniper by the name of the dark. Two Somali crawled through a fence and grabbed the food. The soldiers ordered them to halt. When the Somalis turned and ran, the Canadians, equipped with night vision goggles, shot both men in the back, killing one. Afterward, as the report notes, Canadian officers concluded that the troops were simply doing their job. But the commissioners disagree, writing that the deliberate trip was "a dubious interpretation of the rules of engagement."

That incident, and subsequent atrocities, might have remained unknown to the public. But on March 13, 1993, Gen. Day, then a reporter for the weekly daily newspaper the *Star*, appeared on television as an eyewitness to a British and U.S. war plane shot a number of Canadian soldiers to hospital. "When I asked," recalls Day, now a reporter with the *Charlottetown Gazette*, "they were very abrupt and defensive." No wonder. Only 27 days before, the bloody, mutilated body of

Giving testimony before a public inquiry is a test of personal and moral integrity.

Many showed this kind of integrity. However, on many occasions the testimony of witnesses was characterized by inconsistency, improbability, implausibility, evasiveness, selective recollection, half-truths and plain lies. Indeed, on some of the issues we encountered what can only be described as a wall of silence. When several witnesses behave in this manner, the wall of silence is evidently a strategy of calculated deception. Perhaps more troubling is the fact that many of the witnesses who displayed these shortcomings were officers, noncommissioned officers and senior civil servants.

Armed, who had been caught breaking into a nearby compound, had arrived at the same hospital. Armit had been in the custody of Maitreux and other Airborne paratroopers, and according to court martial testimony the corporal went home—strongly punching and locking Armit, and using chopsticks to hit the teenager even as the Somali pleaded "Canada, Canada, Canada." It is a little hard to fault the three-hour-long torture. It is hard to fault a teenager who is a new leader. Maitreux tried to hang himself with a hooded, but a guard discovered him before he finished the job.

Impossible to hide, Maitreux's attempted suicide sparked a chain of events that extended from Somalia to headquarters in Ottawa and even reaching then-Defense Minister Kim Campbell. The following March, the Kyle Brown was arrested at a restaurant and taken to a detention facility in a new building. By his attempted suicide, Maitreux was declared unfit to stand trial. In January 1993, a shocking videotape showing Airborne soldiers among other things, being forced to eat urine-soaked bread as part of an initiation rite, prompted the government to abruptly disband the regiment. Then, in the spring of 1993, Maj Barry Armstrong, a doctor who served as Brian Maitreux, was public with allegations that the Somali had been shot on March 4 had been shot in the back of the head at point-blank range. Shortly afterward under intense pressure from the opposition, then-Defense Minister David Colville reluctantly called the public inquiry.

At the time, the Liberals promised to get to the bottom of things. But last week, Lt. Maitreux told Maitreux that he was dubious about the Liberal government's commitment. The incident it appointed Anne Marie Deyrieux a senior public servant and close friend of Airborne paratrooper Fowler—a member of the commission. Fowler later was dismissed as a secretary, who was replaced. "I served from then on that the government was not committed to the inquiry," Lt. Maitreux stressed.

Once the inquiry commenced in October 1993, the commissioners set out what the report termed "a wall of silence." Officials at the department of national defense were slow to cooperate in the commission's search to gather relevant documents. What it was revealed that while the Airborne was in Somalia, it was ordered to shoot any Somali who was a member long investigations that eventually followed the trail of the tangling to Gen. Jean Reyle, by then the new chief of the defense staff. To analyze matters were, said the report, a number of officers who testified at the inquiry but on the witness stand and tried to de-

THE SEARCH FOR ELUSIVE TRUTH

In the spring of 1993, Somalia also was at the top of the news—only that it was Brent Malmgren's 7th government and high-flying defense minister Kim Campbell at the center of the storm and Jean Chrétien and his Liberals on the offensive. At issue was the question, would it be the fact that Somali teenager Shidine Armit had been beaten to death by paratroopers, one of whom then tried to take his own life? The Grits, swearing "cover-up," claimed to know the details of the case from the very beginning. But Campbell, who had just launched her bid for the Conservative leadership, said the issue actually was raised by the Somali's death two days after it happened, it took another two weeks before the

board it might have been murder.

Why the delay? Campbell's theory is that senior officials and officials in the department of national defense intentionally kept the case in the dark. It was the most feared from the inside out, said Campbell. It was a major federal election campaign, which saw the Tories lose all but two seats in the House of Commons. When the Liberals took over, they acted to shut the scandal behind them—moving chief of the defense staff John Armit in a NATO posting in Brussels and sending deputy defense minister Robert Fowler to the United Nations in New York City. But the issue broke its way in January 1993, with the well-publicized video of the Airborne's beating rituals and Maj. John Deyrieux and Maj. LOUIE FISHER in Ottawa.

Armit's account two months after that was the killing of a Somali by Canada soldiers was, in fact, an execution.

Campbell, who is now Canada's ambassador in Los Angeles, condemned the government's January decision to shut down the inquiry, claiming it was "an opportunity to clear the air." That desire gave more change when the commission was set up in November 1993, a senior legal officer in the department of national defense, which stated that Campbell's office knew details of the Armit killing five days before she learned. That prompted John Dixon, a former aide to Campbell, to call Blair's claim an "utter and complete falsehood." Hard truth, though, have proven elusive.

fect blame to more junior roles. And then came the government's ordered end to the hearings. "We were able to describe one situation in Somalia—and to a certain extent you could draw your own conclusions about officers," lamented Desautels. "But that is not the same as being able to look at everything."

The inquiry's abrupt end has left many unanswered questions. Did the military try to cover up Aron's death? Did military police fail to investigate allegations that two other Somalis were severely beaten in the Canadian compound the night of March 14 and 15? Did the military launch a concerted effort to discredit Aron's testimony? What did Fowler—the person LeChasseur now says he would most like to question—mean when he told members of the high command at a meeting early March, 1995, that they should expect a low profile because this Minister Campbell was short?

Still, the inquiry's brief end seems to determine where the blame for the Somalia debacle lay, at the top. "The question was not who tortured Aron," declared LeChasseur in an interview. "but how could this thing happen with officers standing 80 feet away." Overall, the inquiry concluded that the scandal stemmed directly from a failure of leadership by Canada's highest-ranking officers throughout the mission. And the report named names—fingered 11 officers for failing in the performance of their duty. The inquiry took de Chastelain to task for being more concerned with managing political points than determining if the Airborne was truly ready for the Somalia mission. His "beyond neglect," the report said, was a bad example for junior officers. Even Lewis MacKinnon, the hero of Sarajevo, was criticized for not paying enough attention to his duties.

Stung out as the most eloquent exemplar of the leadership problem plaguing the forces was Boyle, the officer viewed by the inquiry as the driving force behind a concerted effort to mask the casualties. Before leaving Canada, the defense staff in 1995, Boyle was in charge of liaison between the military and the inquiry—a power he retained after his promotion. The commission dis-

“We continue to believe that important facts not yet known or remain obscure. We thought, because of its public statements, that the government also believed that it was essential, and in the interests of the Canadian military, to expose, understand, confront and analyze the facts publicly and in an independent, nonpartisan setting. Obviously, we were mistaken, as the government abandoned its earlier declared interest in holding to account senior leaders and officials who participated in the planning and execution of the mission. Once again, history repeats itself, in that only the lower ranks have been made to account for the marked failures of their leaders.”

missed his claim that he knew nothing about the documents that were altered before being released to the media. And they called his readiness to pass blame onto subordinates as becoming Canada's highest soldier. Even acting chief of defense staff Larry Murray, not mentioned in the report, was criticized by the commissioners in their press conference.

The people at the center of the scandal went into defense last week. Murray, who has the support of the government, rejected the inquiry's view that the military continued to in disarray and that generals tried to cover up the mess. De Chastelain, deemed a "failure" in the report, told Macleod that "I wouldn't have told the government the Airborne could go

For all too many unanswered questions still remain



if we weren't capable," he added. "They say the warning signs should have been seen. They may be right, but being able to look back now is a great thing." When contacted last week, retired air marshal John Aulic—now Canada's permanent representative to NATO in Brussels and chief of the defense staff at the time of the Somalia killings, said, "I've always felt confident in my actions as chief of defense staff."

The status quo is not enough, in the inquiry's view. Sweeping changes, the report says, is the only way "to reconfigure not just the Canadian Forces and to ensure honor to our traditional role as international peacekeepers." It made a total of 157 specific recommendations to fix the military system around. Among the most sweeping: a complete overhaul of the military justice system, including the removal of military police from the chain of command and the use of civilian courts to try soldiers; the creation of a new officer program to better prepare soldiers for cultural differences overseas, and promotions based on competence rather than seniority.

Is anybody listening? Last week, Chastelain, who went out of his way to praise the military, and the government will examine the inquiry's recommendations and "act accordingly," but he added that many reforms are already under way. And he hinted that the inquiry's calls for further sweeping changes—and perhaps even criminal charges—will likely go unheeded. "These incidents occurred five years ago," said Chastelain. "People were taken to court, those who were there, and were found guilty."

Guilt, of course, is a complicated thing. So only lower-ranking soldiers have paid the price for what happened in the blistering heat of the African desert. If the Somalia inquiry proves anything, it is the near-impossibility of finding absolute answers for the chaotic events that took place there—particularly when Ottawa seems so bent on burying the truth that the aftermath of the report may underline something else for the Liberals: there is simply no silencing the ghosts of Somalia.

With LOUIE FIDEMORE in Ottawa and ANTHONY WOLSONSKI in Toronto



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The faces of Somalia

Few of the players have emerged unscathed by the scandal

From politicians and top military brass to doctors, editors and journalists, the Somalia affair has involved a wide and varied cast of characters. A look at some of the people who have played a role in the unfolding drama:

LARRY MURRAY

When the vice admiral, Canada's acting chief of the defence staff, testified before the inquiry six months ago, his appearance was highlighted by a series of loose fit disagreements with congressional chairman Gilles LeBouthillier. The inquiry letter described his behaviour as "near top to top". Following the departure of disgraced chief of the defence staff Gen. Jean Boyle, the government named Murray to the post as an interim replacement, but the Somalia scandal, which continues to dog him, seems to make his position untenable. As Canada's top soldier unlikely licensed inquiry commissioner Robert Rutherford last week: "He is not the best man for the job."

KIM CAMPBELL

Former prime minister Kim Campbell was defence minister at the time of the killings in Somalia—and preparing for her ultimately successful run at the Conservative leadership She was caught badly off guard by revelations that one of the deaths looked like a murder and that a Canadian soldier had attempted suicide—and she has maintained that senior defence officials misled her about the nature of the deaths. Ten months after being severely defeated in the 1993 election, Campbell accepted an appointment as Canada's consul general in Los Angeles. Outraged when the inquiry was not started in January—denying her a chance to testify—she has since grown silent on the issue, declining to talk to Maclean's last week and further fueling speculation that the government has told her to keep quiet.

GODDIE YOUNG

As David Collette's successor as the defence portfolio, the New Brunswick MP was seen as a tough guy. His no-nonsense attitude was too impressive, some critics say—and he was roundly condemned for his refusal to extend the inquiry's deadline. Briefly de-



Murray: an appearance described as 'near contemptuous'

scribed in his New Brunswick riding in the June 2 election—a loss attributed mainly to his changes to the Employment Insurance system during his previous job as human resources minister—he announced last week that he is hanging out his shingle as a strategist, planning consultant or, in simpler terms, a lobbyist, in Ottawa.

JIM DAY

The killing of Rhonda Arpaie and other aspects of the Somalia scandal might not have come to light without Jim Day. In 1993, he was working for the Pembroke Observer, a small Ontario daily in the small town 130 km northwest of Ottawa with most of its readers among soldiers based at nearby CFB Petawawa. Arpaie's first media coverage, the Airborne Infantry Day to Somalia to write stories on the Canadian mission. On March 19, Day saw medical personnel rushing a soldier on a stretcher to hospital. Within hours of the Observer publishing the story at the end of the month, the news of Arpaie's death and Clayton Mather's attempted suicide had spread through news outlets across the country. Day is now a general assignment reporter for the Charlotte-Gambetta—and says he feels like a footnote in history. "It overwhelms me when I think about what has happened."

DAVID COLLETTE

The Charbonneau government's first defence minister quickly found himself in the hot seat after the 1993 election. Repeating constant questioning in the House of Commons, he finally established the

Somalia inquiry in March, 1995—and championed the January, 1996, appointment of Boyle as chief of the defence staff. In October, 1996, Collette was forced to resign after writing an anonymous letter for a consultant to the Immigration and Refugee Board. At the time, critics suggested that the government used the defence as a convenient excuse to remove Collette from the spotlight. A Charbonneau insider, he returned to cabinet as transport minister after the June 2 election.

ROBERT FOWLER

The career civil servant's role as deputy minister of defence stands as one of the great unanswered questions in the Somalia affair. LeBouthillier says Fowler is the one person he most regrets not being able to question because the inquiry was shut down. Specifically, LeBouthillier says he wants to know what Fowler knew when he told members of the bush command at defence headquarters during a meeting in early March of 1993 that they should keep a low profile because the Tory leadership campaign was about to heat up—and then Minister Campbell was likely to be a speech date. In 1995, the Liberals appointed Fowler, whose older sister Diana is married to Gov. Gen. Roméo LeBlanc, as Canada's ambassador

to the United Nations. Last week, a press aide did not return Maclean's calls requesting an interview.

CLAYTON MATTHEW

The Airborne parachute soldier who was involved in the torture-murder of Arpaie, was considered a traitor for the young Somalia's death. The reason has failed suicide attempt left him too brain-damaged to stand trial. Matthew is now in the psychiatric ward of a hospital in North Bedford, Sask., where he can walk with some difficulty and is capable of slurred speech.

KYLE BROWN

Brown, who served three years for the manslaughter and torture of Arpaie, still considers he was innocent. Although he acknowledges that he was present during the last bombing, Brown has always maintained that he drew his weapon to stop Matthew, his superior, from abusing the Somali he would have been court-martialed. Now living in Edmonton, he spent the rest of his time promoting Scoutpact, the book he wrote with journalist and author Peter Worthington. In it, Brown maintains there was a concerted effort by army higher-ups to ensure the Somalia command was limited to the lower ranks—and that he, in effect, took the rap for officers who stood 80 feet away listening to Arpaie's screams.

JOHN DE CHASTELAIN

The general was chief of the defence staff when the decision was made to send the Airborne to Somalia, and during the early stages of the mission. According to the inquiry, the Chastelain was too anxious to ensure that Canadian took part in the mission—and the ill-fated mission about whether the war was up to the job. After a brief hiatus as Canada's ambassador to the United States, he was brought back to

Ottawa at the end of 1995 to again serve as chief of the defence staff, replacing Adm. John Anderson. In 1995, he accepted a post in Northern Ireland as one of three international advisors to negotiate the disarmament of terrorist groups on both sides of the Irish conflict.

JOHN ANDERSON

The admiral was appointed chief of the defence staff by Campbell in early 1993. He said afterwards when he heard troops in Somalia before the Arpaie killing and warned them to strive to avoid ethnic tensions because their mission was considering a run for the Tory leadership. Furthermore, his alleged role in the delay of information to politicians surrounding the deaths in Somalia is still under question. After the defeat of the Tories in 1995, the new Liberal government, striving to distance itself from the scandal, fired Anderson. Soon afterward, he was appointed Canada's permanent representative to NATO.

BARRY ARMSTRONG

A medical doctor deployed in Somalia, May, Armstrong gained national prominence in 1995 when he told the media that the Somali who died on March 4, 1993, received a point-blank gunshot to the back of the head. That revelation finally forced Collette to call a public inquiry into the Somalia affair. Army colleagues came forward trying to discredit Armstrong as unstable. But he refused to back down. The inquiry report said it based on evidence to refute Armstrong's accusations and LeBouthillier called him one of the heroes of the affair. Armstrong, who is no longer in the army, lives in Dryden, Ont., where he works as a general practitioner.

JEAN BOYLE

The retired general, a former fighter pilot, rose quickly through the ranks and was appointed chief of the defence staff at the height of the scandal in 1990. During his 10 days before the commission, he endured steady fire from commissioners for his selective memory and unwillingness to share the blame for the 1995 tampering of departmental documents. Within weeks, under intense opposition and media scrutiny, he submitted his resignation. Shortly afterward, he accepted an executive post with aircraft manufacturer McDonnell Douglas in Toronto.

ERNEST BENO

The brigadier general was the brigade commander at CFB Petawawa at the time of the Airborne's Somalia mission. He was responsible for the removal of the unit's commander just weeks before its departure. He struggled on the witness stand during his testimony in 1996, and was criticized by LeBouthillier for his inconsistent. Beno filed a series of legal actions, claiming LeBouthillier was biased against him, and trying to block the publication of his name in the final report. Note: successful. Close to retirement, he is now working at defence headquarters in Ottawa.



Armstrong (left), Brown: claims that the lower ranks were used as 'scapegoats'





Belgian soldiers holding a Somali boy; charges were dismissed for lack of evidence

The wider stain

It all sounds precisely familiar. Seeing an image of a Somali child, weak, injured, bloodied and in obvious terror at the feet of soldiers holding them prisoner? Officials who react with disgust and promise that the perpetrators will be punished. A government that sets up an inquiry into wrongdoing by overzealous peacekeepers—while military officials staunchly defend their own. So goes the Italian version of the Somalia scandal, which erupted last week with revelations and photographs provided by a former soldier—and which promises to rock the Italian military to its foundations. Like Canada's scandal and a similar one that exploded in Belgium in April, all of the allegations arise from the United Nations relief mission that took the annals of 20 countries to strife-torn Somalia in 1992-1993. And also like Canada's scandal, there are claims who remain pending about whether justice will ever be done. "I doubt whether they will get to the bottom of this," predicted Fabio Accorri, a former Italian parliamentarian who helps the families of soldiers who die in military service. "The main dream is to escape."

In Italy, the allegations have struck deeply at the country's regard for its widely respected troops. For many years, Italians have prided themselves on their soldiers' success in arbitrating between civil factions or bringing humanitarian assistance to the suffering. But that reputation has slid precipitously over the last month. In early June, the Italian news magazine *L'Espresso* published graphic shots of a Somali prisoner squatted on the ground, cuffed except for pants pulled down around his ankles, with two paramedics apparently preparing to apply electrodes to his testicles. The next, a few weeks later, more disturbing pictures were leaked, this time of a Somali woman being held against an armed car while apparently being raped with a metal bar. "The fact is you couldn't remain in that environment without going wild," said

the soldier, identified only as Stefano, who took the photographs. "You had to keep in with the group. It was the only way to be sure that you would make it home safe and sound."

Taking pictures also appears to have been a sure way to be accepted, which may help to explain why such scenes were photographed by observers who failed to intervene to stop the brutality. In fact, Italian soldiers in Somalia were almost as attached to their cameras as their weapons, according to Michele Perrone, 36, who shot the pictures of the Somali being tortured with electrodes. A conscript who left the army soon after returning from Africa in 1993, Perrone now works as a travelling photographer. At the urging of a journalist who heard him talking at a bar about his experiences, and after much soul-searching, he finally decided to speak out to the Italian press and denounce the abuses he had witnessed.

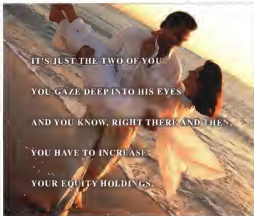
Curiously, it appears that the crimes were grave. Another Italian conscript, F. Tagliavini, tracked down Ali Abdur, 33, the Somali man who claims to have been tortured with electrodes by the paramilitary *Falga* (Lightning) Fascist Brigade. Abdur said that an Italian paratrooper, now identified as Sgt. Valerio Lucio, applied electric shocks to his testicles three times. "I yelled and yelled," Abdur told the magazine. Asked how his life had changed since the incident, he alleged to have taken place at the Italian military camp at Jibar in 1993. Abdur replied, "My penis has been damaged. The doctor in Jibar told me I have blood shots in my testicles."

And while a consciousness of inquiry has been set profound dislike about his involvement. "The theory that it was the fault of a few wild individuals, rather than of the mission, is the one that is likely to prevail," he said.

The spate of allegations about human rights abuses by Italian troops was sparked by media coverage of similar atrocities attributed to Belgian peacekeepers. In early April, Belgian newspapers printed pictures of soldiers clanking a Somali child over a fire, as they did so, they threatened to "cook" the boy. Belgians were also outraged by accounts that a paramilitary allegedly forced a Muslim Somali boy to eat pork and drink salt water until he vomited. In another incident, soldiers are accused of killing a child by confining him in a small metal box for two days in 40° heat. But last week, a military court acquitted the two soldiers accused of attacking the child over the fire, concluding that "it could not be established that physical violence had been inflicted."

David Storrer, an Africa specialist at the law firm of Skadden, Arns, & Leedom, said he was amazed at the leniency granted to the Belgian paramilitary. Storrer said he will be surprised if a similar whitewash occurs in Italy that he did so last month of grime for both Canadian and Italian peacekeeping forces and said they are well worth monitoring. In fact, Canadians remain some of the best in the world he said. "They're professional and they straddle the French-English divide, which can be important in Africa." To preserve the stature of generally competent forces like Canada's and Italy's, he added, it is vital to get to the root of the current allegations. "Transparency is the stage on which modern armed forces are judged, while there are no wars," Storrer observed. "It's wise to address the problem properly."

PATRICIA CHRISTIAN with PETER HALLAM in Rome



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CANADA FROM **KANESATKE, QUE.**

The lessons of Oka

Corporal Donald Teasdale's newly painted black cruiser is almost in total condition. But the driver's door, which sports the embossed crest of the newly installed Kanestakeh Mohawk Police, is dented by two ugly scars: the work of a key-throwing vandal. Teasdale, a 31-year-old Algonquin from a reserve near Manawask, Ont., seems surprised about the damage—even though it appears pretty early on the nine-month-old police force. He says such incidents are simply part of learning change to Kanestakeh, which was created in 1990 after the merger of the Kanestakeh and the nearby Oka police forces. Teasdale says he's not surprised about the damage—even though it appears pretty early on the nine-month-old police force. He says such incidents are simply part of learning change to Kanestakeh, which was created in 1990 after the merger of the Kanestakeh and the nearby Oka police forces. Teasdale says he's not surprised about the damage—even though it appears pretty early on the nine-month-old police force. He says such incidents are simply part of learning change to Kanestakeh, which was created in 1990 after the merger of the Kanestakeh and the nearby Oka police forces.

Two observers would deny that something had to give in Kanestakeh. The local Mohawks and the S  rie du Qu  bec share a long history of strained relations, which exploded into violence during the Oka crisis. During the 78-day standoff, famous Mohawk defectors became the enemy of the police. The planned response of a police force that they consider to be sacred land. When the S  rie tried to dismantle the barriers, one of their officers was fatally shot, most likely by a protester. To fill the gap left by the S  rie, which sharply reduced its patrols after the crisis, the community set up a civilian Mohawk security team to "stop investigations," according to Kanestakeh Grand Chief James Gabriel. But the results were mixed, and the final push for a formal police force came last year and problems with needless driving and damage to the nearby Oka golf course in 1990. Some of that still police members' anger. "We had a mild week here," Teasdale says, recalling the first patrol in May. Some residents treated police, while others tried to draw them into car chases. "They tested us," as local Police Chief Barry Commando describes the force's debut. But he insists that most of Kanestakeh's 1,600 residents—including about 400 non-natives—welcome the new approach to law and order. "They're very proud to have a police force," says Commando. "It was due."

But there was no time to relax in the community. As a result, Teasdale and his fellow officers—all have served with other police forces—were brought in from outside the area. Local Kanestakeh recruits are now in training until December, when Commando, an Algonquin from a reserve near Manawask, hopes to add no more officers. Under an agreement reached last December with the federal and Quebec governments—which are paying \$1.25 million an

annually, a new, all-ative police force is bringing change to the community.

ready for the force—the new team has power to enforce the Quebec Highway Code and the Criminal Code of Canada. The officers also sport such for wear equipment as riot helmets and shields. A 40-car force is based in a new station on Teasdale's tip and he also carries pepper spray.

Although some Kanestakeh residents grumble that the local council should have asked the community to fully the police agreement, many are clearly pleased with the outcome. "I can live the way of action without any people, knowing that they can call when there is a problem," says Gabriel. At a local endorsement, four women readily agreed

with that assessment as they smoked cigarettes after lunch. "We don't have any more fear," said one Mohawk woman, who requested anonymity. They also did not hear the sound of gunfire, which, although fired in the air, "used to scare us just the same," the women said.

As Kanestakeh marks the seventh anniversary of Oka with an annual powwow starting on July 1, it's clear that problems remain, including the outdoor Mohawk land claims. Some of the wounds, though, seem to be healing. The new police force receives assistance—again requested—from the S  rie, and Commando maintains that they share "a good working relationship." Gabriel also lauds the native police as an important step towards more authority for the Mohawk community, which is not a formal reserve. "It enables us to enforce laws that we expect and to exert our authority over our territory," he said.

For many years across the country, there is no question that native forces are a positive alternative to more conventional policing arrangements. But in some ways, Kanestakeh's new police officers face the same problems as recent arrivals in almost any small community. On one quiet morning last week, when the only sound in the police dispatcher's office was the hum of a fan, Teasdale advised a 40-year-old female service on occasion, partly because of not knowing the local. "But that's what keeps you on your toes," he added. Although he finds his new job slightly easier than in Manawask, he attributes it to the fact that Kanestakeh has reserved his own police force before. "It takes time to get used to the way of life," he said. "Many local residents do not have that feeling of protection."

BYRONIA BERNARDI

Canada NOTES

IPPERWASH ANGER

Natives were incensed by Ontario Court Judge Hugh Fossan's decision not to imprison policeman Kenneth Deane, who in 1990 shot and killed five protesters during the Oka crisis. Deane was sentenced to 180 hours of community service.

BAYER BACKS OUT

Pharmaceutical giant Bayer Inc. backed out of the Canadian Red Cross Society's plans to build a \$200-million blood fractionation plant in Bedford, N.S., saying the society was unable to secure financing by a June 30 deadline. Bayer was to have supplied the technology for the facility. The Red Cross is currently embroiled in a scandal involving the tainted blood supply of the 1980s.

TOUGH ON TRUCKERS

Ontario adopted traffic law permitting fines up to \$50,000 for the owners of trucks whose wheels fly off. The province has been plagued by a number of fatal multiple trucking accidents that have broken lives and collided with cars. Injured drivers, meanwhile, say face a lifetime driving ban for a third offence. The law could be out to 10 years should the offender complete a rehabilitation program.

LOGGERS FIGHT BACK

Members of the International Woodworkers of America in British Columbia used loggins to protest a Greenpeace ship, preventing it from leaving its moorings in Vancouver. The I.W.O. loggins are also picketing the ship, demanding that Greenpeace pay union members for wages lost due to the group's sub-judicial protests. Greenpeace is pushing for a bill to the clearing of old-growth rain forests.

LANGUAGE POLICE

Some Montreal municipalities claimed that Quebec's Office de la langue Fran  aise was targeting them for minor infractions of the province's French language law. The association called after the province's language watchdog sent municipalities notices warning them that they were breaking the law. Among the offences, St-J  re was cited for "not" instead of "yes."



TOUGH COMPETITION: A well-promoted "hedge taker" had his hands full with Aes, an attack dog from the Saskatchewan Police and Fire Games. The games, which wrapped up last week, were held in Calgary and attracted about 8,700 contestants from more than 45 countries. Local and enthusiastic crowds gathered to see events such as a tug of war for female police, a water-bugby relay for firefighters and hose-spraying for accuracy.

Cracking down on a reserve

It was a stunning act for a judge, and an explicit condemnation of those who control the wealthy Stoney reserve, west of Calgary. The case centered on Ernest Hunter, a reserve resident who pleaded guilty to beating his wife while drunk last December. During a hearing last week, provincial court Judge John Kelly sentenced the reserve's chief to 18 months in prison. Instead, he ordered Calgary's top Crown prosecutor to investigate "social conditions, political corruption and financial mismanagement" on the reserve, which received \$32 million in federal funding and oil and gas royalties last year.

Kelly's ruling arose from the fact that Hunter had been unable to complete a break-

ment program because of his drinking last year. "Residents of the reserve have described it to me as a 'jungle with bars' and a 'hellhole ghetto,'" Kelly wrote. "Who is it that this reserve, which should be no prison, has so many poor people, has such a low level of education, has horrendous social problems, and has such an apparent lack of programs to deal with those problems?" Stoney reserve Chief John Snow denied the allegations of corruption and mismanagement. But others praised Kelly's decision. "The system that's on the reserve is very wicked," said Roy Little, Chief, former chief of the Stoney Nation. "It's a hidden Mafia situation that we live under."

Leniency for a woman who killed her son

Danielle Blais, 44, was deeply depressed last November when she drowned her 10-year-old autistic son, Charles-Antoine. She then tried to kill herself. Last week, Quebec Court Judge Jean Falardeau gave Blais a 24-month suspended sentence for manslaughter, ordering her to live in a halfway house while receiving psychiatric treatment. The Crown had sought a jail term, but Falardeau said imprisonment does not act as a deterrent for those suffering from mental illness. Evidence indicated that Blais was depressed because she could not get school authorities to confront her son's autism, which is associated with severe behavioral problems.

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COMPAQ

How big is too big?

NATO leaders argue over a controversial expansion plan

BY ANDREW PHILLIPS

To keep the Russians out, the Germans down
and the Americans in

—Lord Isang, first secretary general of NATO,
describing the goals of the alliance

Lord Isang may have permitted himself to put vent before diplomacy when he made that remark in the early '50s. But there is no doubt that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has lived up to his promise almost half a century after it was formed to contain the threat to Europe from Stalin's Soviet Union. As the alliance's leaders gather this week in Madrid for what they bill as a historic summit, they may reflect with satisfaction that Russian troops are farther than ever from the heart of the continent. Germany poses no military threat to its neighbors, and the United States is still firmly committed to defending Europe.

With that success behind it, NATO might well consider declaring victory, folding its tent, and going out of business. But bureaucratic organizations have a way of finding new purposes when the old ones die. So instead, the 16 European and North American leaders will be preoccupied by an entirely different matter: how to expand the club. Going into the week-end meeting, it was clear that NATO would decide to invite new members to join, and that the recruits would come from the ranks of countries that only recently found the alliance from across a bitterly divided continent. The plan, however, raises as many questions as it answers: How much will it cost to expand NATO, and who will pay? Will the allies be alarmed by adding relatively poor and badly equipped members? Most important, will the decision be hindered by differing anti-Western feelings in Russia and turning a potential partner into a resentful opponent?

First, though, comes what American officials, speaking uncharacteristically like characters in a Dr. Seuss children's book, call "the Who Question." Who should be asked to join now? France, Italy and even Canada favored a relatively ambitious expansion that would include Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovenia. But the United States, which leads the biggest share of NATO's budget and provides its nuclear umbrella, took a more limited view in the weeks leading to the summit. American officials made it clear they would support admitting only the three former East Bloc countries with the longest record of democratic governments, market reforms and good relations with their neighbors: Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. That ruled out Romania elsewhere—especially in those countries left out of the first invite. "There's nothing wrong with Romania and Slovenia,"



David Fried, the U.S. National Security Council's director for Central and Eastern Europe, is quoted as adding at a briefing last week, "We must keep a very strong open door for them."

The United States first refused to let them in at this moment so irritated Italy and, especially, France, which accused the Americans of dictating to their European partners. Canada, as usual, took a more relaxed view while supporting a wider approach in principle. Ottawa indicated it will go along with the Americans. "We'd be happy with these [new members]," said foreign affairs department spokesman David Moore. "We'd be happier with five, because we support the broadest possible enlargement." In fact, Ottawa has long seen NATO



Orban and Poljan with France's Jacques Chirac and NATO Secretary General Lord Isang at May meeting. Canadian soldiers posing in North Carolina (left) contrasting the "Who Question"

as an important tool for Canadian interests. "It is one of the ways in which we have been able to sit at the high table," says Nicholas Sturgeon, managing director of the Toronto-based Strategic Analysis Group. "Down in the years after our power had declined in relative terms, we were still there with the major players."

In Eastern Europe, too, joining NATO is seen as much more than a military decision. For Czechs, Hungarians and Poles, it is a huge step towards rejecting what they simply call "Europe"—the Europe of Western, democratic values—and embracing the humiliation of being cast as Soviet satellites and second-class societies for half a century. Col. Egon Miroslav, a senior official with the Polish defense ministry, told Moore's that expanding NATO is vital for European stability and world peace. "It is an expression of the safety zone eastward," Miroslav said. "We are not entering NATO. NATO is coming to us." Czech President Vaclav Havel put it more strongly. Those who oppose bringing in new members, he said, "want to perpetuate the situation brought about by the Cold War."

Perhaps the alliance's biggest challenge was to convince Russia's fear that the West was out to isolate it. Early this year, Russian leaders were adamantly opposed to any expansion. In January, a group of top officials advised President Boris Yeltsin to respond by targeting nuclear missiles at the capital cities of NATO members, and the Russian parliament refused to ratify the START-2 treaty reducing nuclear armaments.

But in late May Russia accepted to weaken missiles and struck a deal with the Western alliance. It accepted expansion as part of a new arrangement that makes Russia itself a partner with NATO in European security. Yeltsin and NATO leaders signed a so-called Founding Act setting up a "NATO-Russia Permanent Joint Council" that will give Russia a voice in such matters of common concern as terrorism, nuclear safety and peacekeeping. Western leaders also stress that the new coalition will not give Russia a veto over any NATO decision. As one part of the accord, they declared that the alliance has "no intention, no plan and no reason" to deploy nuclear weapons or station "substantial combat forces" in any new member states.

That was the best deal the Russians could strike and, for now at least, it has calmed their fears. They would have been much more alarmed if NATO had its eye on countries the Russians consider most vital to their strategic interests—such as Ukraine and the Baltic

states. The new concerns about expansion are in the West—in particular, the United States. The U.S. Congress must eventually approve the entry of any new NATO member, and skepticism about the wisdom of enlarging the alliance is growing. Forty-six leading foreign policy experts, including many former government officials, issued an open letter to President Bill Clinton describing the expansion of NATO into Eastern Europe as "a policy error of historic proportions." They predicted that expansion "will draw a new line of division between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots,' foster instability, and ultimately threaten the sense of security of those countries which are not included."

They said other critics also worry about the cost. The three likely new members will bring in armies totaling from 350,000 troops (Poland) to 64,200 (Hungary), which are equipped with aging Soviet-made equipment and backed by relatively poor economies. They will have to upgrade their forces to NATO standards, make their communications networks, air traffic control system and aircraft compatible with those of other NATO countries, and replace obsolete weapons systems with Western-made equipment. Poland alone will need up to 150 modern self-propelled tanks, 100 modern MBTs, some of which date to the 1950s. American and European arms makers are already jockeying for shares of the new market.

Estimates of the cost of enlargement vary widely, depending on how many countries join and what needs to be done. In one study, the U.S. government put the bill at between \$37 and \$48 billion over the next three years, with the American share at between \$300 million and \$500 million a year. But last year that Washington oval ended up paying more. A study by the Washington-based Institute for Policy Studies and the International Resource Centre, warns, "The arrival at a new group of relatively poor nations may result in Uncle Sam, as the biggest advocate of NATO expansion, paying the majority of the bill."

For Canada, the implications are less dire. Canada closed its NATO bases in southern Germany in 1993, and now has only a few hundred troops stationed permanently in Europe. The Canadian contribution to NATO in 1994 was \$1.5 billion. The defense department estimates that would increase by between \$75 million and \$100 million annually if five new countries join after the Madrid summit—and less if the intake is limited to three, as is likely. One Canadian contribution to the integration of Eastern Europe is already under way as part

of the Partnership for Peace program, an umbrella group which includes NATO members and all 49 central and east European, including Russia. The countries' lack of skill in other languages is one of the obstacles to working easily alongside NATO forces, so Canadians have been tutoring Polish and other Eastern European officers in English and French at CFB Borden outside Angus, Ont.

Beyond the wangling over money lies a much larger issue. Clinton has made expanding NATO his most important foreign policy goal. If it succeeds, he said in a speech aimed at building domestic support for the move, it will do nothing less than erase the stain of Europe's division and help to "avoid repeating the darkest moments of the 20th century." The result will be an alliance that stretches of the way from Vancouver to Warsaw.

PHIL ANDERSON, JOURNALIST in Moscow and SYLVIA BARABAR in Toronto

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Total active armed forces of selected NATO members:

United States	1,493,000
France	368,000
Germany	336,400
Britain	226,000
Canada	70,500

Prospective members:

Poland	248,500
Czech Republic	70,000
Hungary	64,200

Not in line:

Romania	228,400
Slovenia	8,500

The big son member:

Russia	1,270,000
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SOURCE: NATO, U.S. ARMY, AND OTHER AVAILABLE SOURCES

Getting down to business

Flags came down. Flags went up. Macao was draped. Prince Charles has officially parted with Britain's oldest colony. Appleton bathed China's President Jiang Zemin as he triumphantly gazed back into the embrace of "the motherland." But as Hong Kong changed from colony to Special Administrative Region last week, one symbol spoke with equal eloquence under both regimes: money. In the awkward ceremony marking the end of British rule, it appeared in both cash and plastic, with young performers lowering oversized coins in various currencies and costumes as credit cards. In the inaugural celebration of China's renewed sovereignty the following night, illuminated floats carried Victoria Harbour representing a tree laden with coins and the golden unicorn of fortune. So perhaps Tung Chee-hwa spoke truth—and to the heart when he declared, in his inaugural speech as the territory's chief executive, "Our foremost task is to enhance Hong Kong's economic vitality."

Certainly that is what international business, as well as Hong Kong's new masters in Beijing, are counting on. Hong Kong already has plenty of wealth: its \$120 billion in currency reserves make it the fourth-richest place on the planet. But it is not without problems. Tung went on to list some he plans to tackle, including care for the elderly—there is no government pension plan—and improved education. He also promised "a stable, equitable, free, competitive society, within clear sense of direction." But the two subjects that Tung will be judged on above all others came late in his address: a resolution to alleviate Hong Kong's housing crisis and steady movement to "win back democracy." How he handles these will say much about the "high degree of autonomy" Beijing has promised—and where Tung's true sympathies lie.

The two issues place the crew-cut chief executive paradoxically both "backers"—both in the business community and in business—and the expectations of Hong Kong's 6.5 million people. And Tung must begin to



Tung facing the press; a soldier raises the Chinese flag (right); the honeymoon is over

deliver on both almost immediately. Seven months after a Beijing-appointed panel chose him for the job, says political scientist Joseph Cheng Yushik of City University of Hong Kong, "Mr Tung's honeymoon is already over."

Small and firmly settled, Hong Kong is obsessed with real estate. Property development underpins roughly half the territory's wealth—and, virtually all of its large private fortunes. Far many residents, the search for more and better living space is a daily preoccupation.

But as the population has expanded ahead of predictions in recent years, the scramble to accommodate everyone has failed. Three subdivisions in private apartment units, selling prices into the stratosphere. While man-

sons on Victoria Peak fetch long's millions (one sold recently for \$130 million), even postage stamp flats easily command \$500,000. That has led to a growing number of people unable to afford a home of their own.

Against that backdrop, 26-year-old Arries Lam has few wet. Accountant service agent for an airline, she has lived until now with her parents and three brothers in a 400-square-foot apartment in a public housing complex in Kowloon. Near the remote end of the subway line. Earlier this year, however, she pooled her resources with her pious brother to enter a government-run lottery for a chance to buy a flat near the new Chek Lap Kok airport. When their number came up, Arries and her brother secured a unit slightly larger than their parents', which they hope to occupy in September. In exchange for a lim-

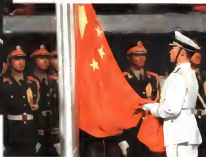
ed night to resell, the pair will pay a below-market mortgage from their combined income of about \$3,300 a month. "I feel lucky," Lam says. "Otherwise, I would like to have a flat of their own. If you own your own flat, at least you have shelter."

But many are not so lucky. There are 350,000 tenants on the waiting list for public housing units, and the delay can be as long as seven years. Tung has promised action both to cool speculation and to increase the number of apartments built. But he faces political roadblocks. One lies in the Hong Kong civil service, which devised many of the development-handling regulations Tung may now seek to relax. Yet that may require some head-

in the opposite direction. "At the same time, too sharp a drop in prices could threaten dangerously through the rest of the economy, starting housing. 'Once you have a downturn in property,' notes Ian Poon, staff economist of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, "you're talking about a whole array of other negative effects. You have problems in the stock market, problems in the banks."

Effectively, Tung is damned if he does, damned if he doesn't. Failure to act could also prove problems, as well as unpopular. Unless "tough, credible measures come out of Mr Tung's office within one or two months," warns economist Tang Shau of Hong Kong Baptist University, "the speculative bubble will slowly balloon and then there will be a crash."

In the wake of the handover, the new leader faces tough decisions



to roll—and meddling with Hong Kong's highly respected senior civil servants will carry its own price. "That will be disaster," asserts political scientist Li Ping, noting "the continuity of the civil service system carries symbolic meaning. It is one of the foundations that Hong Kong people rely on for stability."

Any attempt to rein in the real estate market will also pit Tung against the handful of powerful property tycoons responsible, as many eyes, for keeping private-sector housing prices artificially high. Says Li: "There is very strong business pressure following him

to roll—and meddling with Hong Kong's highly respected senior civil servants will carry its own price. "That will be disaster," asserts political scientist Li Ping, noting "the continuity of the civil service system carries symbolic meaning. It is one of the foundations that Hong Kong people rely on for stability."

The same rationale will likely surface again within weeks, when Tung unveils the rules for his cabinet. In 1996, he will lead for a new legislative council. The 10-member body will take over from a controversial, pro-democracy provincial council sworn in after the handover last week. The previous legislatures replaced a set elected in 1995 under British rules that China did not accept. The new rules are expected to rely on proportional representation and more indirectly elected seats to ensure that the pro-democracy parties win far lower spots than they have in the past under Canadian-style first-past-the-post rules. "The whole arrangement," says political scientist Cheng, "is to limit the influence of pro-democracy groups, to make sure they don't get more than 30 per cent of the seats."

The punchy may curtail Hong Kong's social liberal groups, but it is unlikely to silence them. In a dramatic gesture in the early hours of the handover, Martin Lee, whose Democratic Party dominated the now-dissolved 1995 council, rounded the colonnaded second-story balcony of Hong Kong's colonial legislature to address thousands of cheering supporters. Promising to contest next year's election on whatever terms Tung offers, Lee echoed U.S. General Douglas MacArthur's famous underlining, declaring several times: "We shall return."

In some ways, Tung seems ready to bend to Hong Kong's political passions. Asked in a CBSi interview whether he would use new stricter protest rules to ban future rallies in memory of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, Tung replied: "All lawful, peaceful demonstrations will be permitted in Hong Kong. Demonstration is part of our culture." "So, it is a part that may test the tolerance of China's Communist rulers," President Jiang last week reported that China would respect the principle of "one country, two systems," negotiated with Britain. "Hong Kong residents," he added, "will enjoy their rights and freedoms according to law." But in another personal challenge to democracy, the government must still enact new laws to define protest, sedition, subversion and separatism—all of which will become political crimes in Hong Kong. It will fall to Tung to defend those measures to Hong Kong's people—many of whom have better personal experience of mainland repression. "The role of Mr. Tung," says Li, "is to balance the demands of the Beijing government against Hong Kong society at large. If he instigates that well, he will be successful."

It is a daunting task. Facing the press last week after 26 hours of ceremony and official meetings, the exhausted new chief executive quipped: "What is the biggest constraint I have to encounter? I have to have more sleep." Best, however, may be the one thing that Tung cannot count on. □



ON ASSIGNMENT
CH. J. WOOD
IN HONG KONG

The altar of doom

A Calgary archeologist escapes a jungle attack

Prior Mathews was satisfied as the team completed its task at the remote El Cuyo excavation site south-west of Palenque, Mexico. The University of Calgary archeologist had spent the last weeks of June deliberately persuading Indian authorities in troubled Chiapas state of the need to move an ancient Maya altar to a more secure location 35 km upstream.

For Mathews, 46, and his team, it was a labor of love, a way to keep the 1,200-year-old artifact in its home region, safe from looters. He feared were it not for removing it and storing it on the black market. Residents of the nearby village of El Chocomauc agreed with the plan, in fact the community council charged of Fronton de Corozal, a Maya village where the precious relic was to be protected in a storage building. As three cell looters and seven Ch'ol Indians helped Mathews carefully carry the 270-kg piece of scratched stone, the team leader felt relieved that a helicopter would arrive the next day to airlift the treasure out of hinter's eye. Instead, they found their altar in grave danger.

Dozens of angry villagers from other communities suddenly converged on El Cuyo, some of them accusing the archeologists of tampering with their heritage. It was the beginning of a terrifying four days. Mathews, his Calgary doctoral student Armand Acuña, two other Mexican colleagues and seven guides, were brutally beaten by armed bandits and held up at rifle point, excavation site. "We thought they were dead," said Scott Raymond, chairman of Calgary's archeology department. But Mathews and four others made a daring escape by jumping into the Usumacinta river, which divides Mexico from Guatemala. After a harrowing trek through the jungle, they were rescued by passing boatmen. At work's end, Mathews was left in Mexico, his homecoming to wife Janet, daughter Vicki, 17, and son David, 14, delayed by the theft of his passport and Canadian loaned-indeed grant documents.

The Australian-born Mathews, a world renowned expert on Mayan hieroglyphics, is not even a risk-taker, says Raymond. "He's a very gentle guy, not an Indiana Jones type at

all." Mathews studied at Calgary in the early 1970s, earned his master's degree at Yale University, then returned to Calgary at the mid-1980s after receiving the prestigious MacArthur Foundation research fellowship, known as the "genius" grant. In 1992, he began working at El Cuyo, on a project co-sponsored by Canada's Social Science and Humanities Research Council and Mexico's

their weary victims they were free to go.

But as Mathews and his team reached the shores of the Usumacinta, they heard rifle shots and shouts over the river of white rapids. A group of villagers lined the El Cuyo up by the river's edge in rifle point and began to beat them, bringing the scientists and their Ch'ol Maya aides to their knees. Mathews suffered a blow from a rifle ball in one eye and a broken nose, while one of his aides emerged with three broken ribs and a ruptured spleen. "Viscally when they started hitting me I was feeling relief—that they weren't yet shooting," Mathews recalled. "Everything happened so fast for several to take over." But the beatings continued, and the team decided to try to break away.

"The [beat] altar was into the woods, but we weren't sure what to do. So we just jumped into the river," said Mathews. Two

Mathews the altar (above)—protecting a valuable relic



National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH) team uncovered the circular altar the next year.

As Mathews recounted in an interview with Mathews' after flying from Palenque to Mexico City, the terror began when about 70 people emerged from the jungle and confronted the archeologists. Mathews and his team, who had long maintained good relations with locals, quickly stopped the operation. They had already started to cover the 1.2-km-wide area, painstakingly pried from the rain the day before, when the villagers took them hostage and stripped them of their possessions—money, watches, supplies, even their boots. After holding them throughout the day while they debated what to do, the captives told

of the Mexican archeologists—including Calgary graduate Marie Moght—could not swim. Mathews and his partner, Acuña, went to their rescue, dragging them aboard a jagged canoe they came upon. "We had walked, paddled and swam our way downstream for about a kilometer," said Mathews. The professor and his team eventually broke into the jungles of Guatemala, Belize, Honduras and leaving a trail of blood, even their shoes. They did not know whether bandits in the darkness on the far side of the rushing waters were those of their captors or potential rescuers, said Mathews. "We knew what they could do to us when the Mexican side." The five bewildered men struggled all night through torrential rain, making their way

Ex-Officers Sue For \$1-million Plus Claim by P&G

Two former members of a company to fight \$1-million plus claim by P&G

Two former members of a company to fight \$1-million plus claim by P&G

Two former members of a company to fight \$1-million plus claim by P&G

Bankrupt Firm Directors To Be Sued By Former Corporations Act Says Directors Personally Liable

Former employees of Hamilton's Department Stores Inc. are seeking court permission to file a class action suit to force Directors of the bankrupt company to pay them holiday and severance pay.

The suit says that the company's directors are personally liable for the company's debts.

The suit says that the company's directors are personally liable for the company's debts.

The suit says that the company's directors are personally liable for the company's debts.

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through smoke-infested bush towards Piedras Negras, the third archaeological ruin in the area and the original home of the Mayan altar that the Canada-Mexico treaty had come to protect. The ruin may well have saved their lives. Shortly after they crossed the river, the waters quickly rose, preventing any pursuit.

By Sunday morning, the men were exhausted. They gave up trying to reach Piedras Negras and stopped in a clearing where they might be seen. In fact, search parties had been looking for them since late Saturday night without success. Finally, a group of Guatemalan botanists happened upon these mid-bush ruins. They took the newcomers to Piedras del Conchal. The Ch'ol Indians said, it turned out, had also made their way to safety.

Calgary's Raymond, who chairs Canada's largest archeology program with up to 10 towns across each year, said such misadventures are rare. "It's a good idea to look at articles that have made the work of researchers like Matthews quite difficult in recent years. One of the problems with archeology around the world is that when facts are portable they are carried off by art dealers," said Raymond. After buying on the black market, private collectors may hold them in vaults for decades before daring to reveal them. "It happens in Canada as well, but Peru and Mexico suffer most from the removal of artifacts," said Raymond. If Calgary's location near the Guatemala border, he added, made it more vulnerable, it is a shame, since it is particularly rich in prehistoric material or secondary government of El Cuyo, subordinate to an alias, or government, of Piedras Negras. The piece is covered in Mayan hieroglyphs that describe the altar's place in society, including his age, 61, and the names of his parents.

The mid-1980s collection by mainly anonymous Zapotecan guerrillas had forced Matthews to postpone the third and final season of his life. This spring, he made a scouting trip and found the ruin and too unstable to start the first last phase. But convinced by reports of turquoise at the Mayan altar, he hoped it was in good luck before leaving. Three pack mules, including an attempt to remove it, had recently appeared on an previously pristine surface.

In the aftermath of last week's attack, Matthews does not know what will become of the ancient treasure. He said he will cannot be sure that his team's presence behind the altars is to spoil the altar. In retrospect, he felt that he should have considered even more communities in the area, although "These people told us they don't respect any authority." He plans to return to Mexico—"but," he added tentatively, "not for a while."

NOBLE MEMBERS with PHIL JORDAN
in Mexico City

WORLD UNITED STATES

Nearly Canadian

Clinton's nominee for ambassador knows the turf

It may have taken the Clinton administration 15 long months to name a new ambassador to Canada, but when it is finally done, the timing could hardly have been better. On July 1, Canada Day, the White House announced that the President wants Gordon Giffin, a 47-year-old Atlanta lawyer, to represent him in Ottawa. And in some ways, he could hardly have chosen someone better qualified. Giffin was born in

Springfield, Mass., but spent almost all his first 17 years in Montreal and Toronto, where he graduated from high school. So does he feel at least partly Canadian? Giffin posed awkwardly when asked that question last week, then replied: "The honest answer is no. I feel like an American who is very familiar with Canada, its people and its history."

His cannot be understated. Giffin's appointment must still be confirmed by the U.S. Senate, and he was candid in saying anything that might attract disapproval from the likes of Senator Jesse Helms, the arch-conservative North Carolina Republican who chairs the Senate's foreign relations committee. It would not be helpful if senators thought a new ambassador too sympathetic to the country he is going to. So Giffin's supporters stress his track record as a lawyer and Democratic party operative in Oregon and Washington for the past two decades, like when a longtime aide to former Georgia senator Sam Nunn, then-governor Bill Clinton in the mid 1980s through the current Democratic Leadership Council, and headed Clinton's election committee in Georgia in both 1990 and 1996.

Along the way, Giffin acquired a solid media reputation and a network of political contacts throughout the South. Still, Giffin's Canadian roots go deep. He was just a few months old when his father

moved his family to Montreal to take a job with the New York Life Insurance Co. Gordon grew up in the West Island suburb of Pointe Claire and learned French, "although I wouldn't describe myself as bilingual." He moved back to Boston with his family for just over a year, then moved again to Toronto and finished high school in another western suburb, Etobicoke. It was 1967, Centennial Year, and Giffin remembers attending celebrations on Yonge Street in the heart of the city. "It was as spectacular," he said last week, "I remember that very clearly." He worked a summer at the Canadian National Exhibition, and attended the last game of the Toronto Maple Leafs/Triples baseball team played at the old Maple Leaf Stadium near Lake Ontario. He and a friend, Giffin recalled, took a horrible binge as a souvenir.

Giffin's appointment was delayed several months longer than expected, but he was candid in saying anything that might attract disapproval from the likes of Senator Jesse Helms, the arch-conservative North Carolina Republican who chairs the Senate's foreign relations committee. It would not be helpful if senators thought a new ambassador too sympathetic to the country he is going to. So Giffin's supporters stress his track record as a lawyer and Democratic party operative in Oregon and Washington for the past two decades, like when a longtime aide to former Georgia senator Sam Nunn, then-governor Bill Clinton in the mid 1980s through the current Democratic Leadership Council, and headed Clinton's election committee in Georgia in both 1990 and 1996.

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Giffin, born in Montreal, knows Ottawa well.

Maclean's On The WEB

In addition to articles from the current issue, the site offers original items of interest to Internet users. A sample:



<http://www.canoe.ca/macleans>

Web NOTES

CAUGHT IN THE WEB

Bad drivers on Canada's West Coast beware. A novel Internet Web site now invites Vancouver-area residents to switch on meathead motorists. By connecting to Bloody Idiots: British Columbia's Record of Dumb Drivers, witnesses to such potentially lethal manoeuvres as failing to signal, dangerous lane changing and red-light running can report the details—complete with the offender's licence plate number—so others to see. Last June, Trevor Wilson, a native of Australia who has lived in the Vancouver area since 1994, launched the Web site after he saw a motorist speeding through a school zone. "I'm not one of these people that likes to jump out and abuse people," he explains. "And I don't have a cell phone on me to call the police. So I thought, 'What else could I do?'"

Japan's Digital Diva

For rising 17-year-old Japanese pop star Kyoko Date, image is, well, everything. In fact, although she has several successful singles to her credit, and will soon be appearing in video concerts and TV commercials, Kyoko is nothing more than the computer-generated offspring of Tokyo model agency HoriPro. Constructed from some 40,000 polygons, her face alone required 10 graphic artists to complete. For more information, visit the Kyoko Date Info Page.

Browser Beat

From hits on its Web site, U.S.-based BrowserWatch estimates that 63 per cent of Web surfers now use Netscape Navigator as their browser, while 27 per cent use Microsoft's Internet Explorer. Barely in the running are IBM WebExplorer (2.1 per cent), iBrowser (1.9 per cent), Lynx (0.9 per cent), and AOL for Windows (0.5 per cent).



The hottest thing next to the sun.



Maclean's

In addition to articles from the current issue and items on the internet, the site offers users a forum for comment and debate. A sample:

On The WEB

<http://www.cmc.ca/macleans>



This Week

Health care reform by D.B.

The federal government must take leadership in seeing that the provinces receive sufficient funding to staff and operate hospitals in all of Canada. We are fast approaching Third World standards in terms of health care. If we can't afford to look after our own people, why do we seem to look down on less-prosperous countries?

Ber-X, fools for gold? by E.

My only hope is that we in the industry do not pay for the mistakes, greed and incompetence of a few if the Basing saga turns out to be a sham. Responsibility, I guess, will be directed towards the one who is already dead. But much blame should befall the security regulators, for their duty is to verify the quality of work being done on an exploration property. And please Mr. Walsh, if Basing turns out to be a pile of fool's gold, take your share of the responsibility or get out of this industry.

Sexy Canadians? by M.D.

I'd have to agree. Most Canadians I've met outside of Canada have tended to be polite, perhaps a little self-righteous, well-educated, competitive drinkers, on the chabby side, happy looking and mutually respectful. But sexy? No.



WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

WORLD NOTES

YELTSIN'S SHUFFLE

Russian President Boris Yeltsin shed justice minister Vladimir Kozlov, 53, over a scandal in which Kozlov was seen on video in a sauna with several naked women. The sauna was a known criminal hangout. Yeltsin also named his daughter Tatiana Dyachenko, 37, to an official post as his adviser. "There are some unpleasant things which it's easy only for me to tell him," she said.

KOREAN PEACE TALKS

After months of hesitation, fence-plagued North Korea agreed to peace talks with South Korea, China and the United States. Due to start on Aug. 5, the talks will try to bring a formal closure to the Korean War, which ended in an uneasy truce in 1953.

BOSNIAN SERB INFIGHTING

Hardliners loyal to accused Bosnian Serb war general Radovan Karadzic mounted a campaign to oust President Alija Izetbegovic after he threatened peace talks and called for a ceasefire. Karadzic has run the Serb Republic from behind the scenes since he was forced to step down as president last year, but played become frustrated by his attempts to block a Bosnian peace pact.

TROUBLED ALBANIA

A post-election appearance by Albania's would-be king, Leks, touched off a gun battle, killing one person. President Sali Berisha considered defeat in the first voting since Albania descended into anarchy last winter amid protests over bankrupt investment schemes. But monarchists accused officials of rigging a vote in which Albanians rejected restoring the throne.

CAMBODIAN VIOLENCE

A mortar and rocket battle erupted in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh when one of the country's leading press newsmen attacked the other's forces in an apparent coup. It was the latest in a series of confrontations between forces loyal to the two pretenses.

MURDER IN KORE

Police in Kobe, Japan, arrested a 14-year-old boy in the grisly murder of an 11-year-old boy, whose severed head was left by the front gate of a school in May. Many Japanese expressed shock that the accused child seemed to be a normal, middle-class, north-going, with no history of trouble.



Russian engineers releasing repair work during underwater tests at extremely difficult task

Preparing a big fix for Mir

Russian engineers desperate to fix the damaged Mir space station planned to use a giant separator to practice repair work on a mock-up of the stricken Spektr module. One of six on the space station, that section was perched on Jan. 25 when a cargo ship resupplying the station overboard the docking port and smashed into its side. The three-man crew quickly sealed off the Spektr from the rest of the space station, but the craft lost about half its electrical power. Last week, Russia's Mission Control said the critically needed repairs would be delayed another week. That will allow the

crew of two Russians and an American time to become familiar with the equipment needed to the repairs—cables and other custom-made pieces—sent up on the cargo ship Progress, which was scheduled to dock with Mir on July 13. In the repair effort, due to start on July 17 or 18, commander Vasiliy Tobolsky will enter the depressurized Spektr and attempt to rework the power to Mir by running new cables to the spacecraft's solar batteries. But weightlessness, bulky space suits, little light and the module's web of wires will make the venture extremely difficult.

ENVIRONMENT

'No risk from power lines'

Childhood leukaemia has been linked to magnetic fields from power lines in a case-control study. Some studies had suggested the link to be spurious, but not this one. The findings were published in the *British Medical Journal* by the National Cancer Institute, based on 638 children under 15 with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

project aroused widespread public concern that exposure to electrical and magnetic fields from power lines can cause leukaemia. Some studies had suggested the link to be spurious, but not this one. The findings were published in the *British Medical Journal* by the National Cancer Institute, based on 638 children under 15 with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia.

the most common childhood cancer. Researchers discovered their exposure to magnetic fields in the home—and that of their mothers while pregnant—and compared it with that of 620 healthy children. They found no correlation between high exposure and cancer. "Unbelievably, there's nothing there," said study director Martin Link.

Forgery claims cloud van Gogh's legacy

As some of Vincent van Gogh's best-known paintings hit the London-based art journal *Artforum*, serious questions have been raised about at least four of the Dutch Postimpressionist's works, including one of the famous *Self-Portraits* series bought by a Japanese firm in 1987 for \$65 million. Others include *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear* and *Self-Portrait with Yellow Sky*. The *Artforum* article, by the *Metropolitan Museum of Art* and *Dr. Gaskin* in the *Museum D'Orsay* in Paris. Van Gogh specialist Jan Hulsker told *The Art Newspaper* that the painter sold almost nothing before he committed suicide in 1890, so there are no sales records to substantiate the paintings. But as his popularity—and prices—soared after 1950, dozens of fakes appeared.

Green dreams

Chain ownership promises to shake up Canada's golf courses

BY TOM FENNELL

For Bruce Simmonds, golf is not so much a game as a problem—and one his bet appears to be paying off. In simple terms, the gamble is this: that chain ownership can prove as profitable in the golf-course business as it is in countless other industries, from fast food to minerals. Simmonds, 44, is founder and president of ChikLink Corp., a three-year-old company that has been snapping up private courses in Ontario in the first stage of a planned national expansion. In 1996, the continued membership of ChikLink's golf courses in Ontario rose 26 per cent, while revenues increased 27 per cent to \$22.5 million. Business is so good, in fact, that Simmonds recently raised the initiation fee couples pay to join King Valley Golf Club, the company's flagship course north of Toronto, to \$53,000 from \$60,000. "The growth has been dramatic," says Simmonds, who is now pressing ahead with plans to buy 25 clubs in the southeastern United States. "It really is fantastic."

ChikLink is pursuing a so-called roll-up strategy similar to the approach used by Loewen Group Inc., the Burshty, B.C.-based chain of funeral homes. Like golf courses, funeral homes were traditionally run-and-pop operations

SWING SHIFT



and entrepreneurs such as Loewen Group founder Roy Loewen began buying them out. Today, Loewen controls 984 homes and 206 crematories, generating almost \$2 billion in annual revenues. Simmonds and several like-minded investors hope to lead the Canadian golfing industry—a which all but 200 of the nation's 3,000 courses are independently owned—through a similar wave of consolidation. In Vancouver, former Loewen Group chief financial officer Bob Garnett runs a company called Eaglequest Golf Centers, which has been buying up small golf courses and dining centers in British Columbia, Washington and Texas. And in June, Granite Golf Group Inc. of Toronto received \$134 million from a Texas-based venture capitalist to finance the purchase of dozens of public golf courses across North America. As Simmonds puts it, the golf industry has one big advantage over the funeral business: "You only die once, but you can play golf 20 times a year."

The success of the three companies' growth strategies largely hinges on whether the game continues to increase in popularity as the baby boom generation grows older. According to a survey last winter by Snow magazine and ComQuest Research of Toronto, 26 per cent of Canadians over age 35 played at least one round of golf in 1996, up from 38 per cent in 1990. By all accounts, that makes Canada the world's most and golfers. In the United States, by comparison, only 16 per cent of the adult population took up last year.

The ComQuest findings were supported by another study re-



Valley, which had cost a Swiss firm nearly \$26 million to develop three years earlier. ChikLink bought it for only \$42 million. The company has since purchased two additional Toronto-area courses, one in central Ontario's Muskoka region and two near Ottawa. A seventh Toronto-area course is under construction.

Once it buys a course, ChikLink moves quickly to boost revenues by centralizing management and cutting surplus staff. Millions of dollars can be saved by buying equipment and supplies in bulk—

the company earned \$1.9 million in 1996, and analysts expect profits to exceed \$50 million by 1999. "The concept is very sound," said Buck Grunert, one of Canada's leading golf authorities. "They have been acquiring some significant properties. I think they've nailed the concept."

Simmonds' latest move is intended to lengthen the golf season. The company recently leased \$4 million to Greenville, S.C.-based Golf South, which operates 23 courses in the southeastern United States, where thousands of Canadians spend all or part of the winter. ChikLink members will receive a discount on green fees at those courses.

Moreover, Simmonds says the cash injection gives ChikLink an option to purchase 51 per cent of Golf South in the next three years.

ChikLink is also trying to boost revenues by renting its facilities to corporations and charities for fundraising events. At about \$35,000 a day, Simmonds says that King Valley is the most expensive course to rent in Canada. Meanwhile, the company has major condemnation developments under way at The Lake Joseph Club in the Muskoka region of central Ontario, King Valley and the Emerald Hills club north-west of Toronto.

Simmonds' strategy, however, is not without risk. Private, high-end golf courses are particularly susceptible to downturns in the economy, which can quickly undermine the value of a \$75,000 membership. Partly for this reason, Granite Golf president Elliot Lewis said he plans to avoid the elite market altogether. Last month, Granite lined up financing from the Lane Star Opportunity Fund, a Dallas-based venture capital group, to underwrite the purchase of dozens of public, golf courses across North America. Winter golfers typically pay fees from \$25 to \$75 to hit links.

Lewis says his company is now negotiating to purchase 32 clubs in Florida and Indiana to own or manage 150 courses in about five years. "We want to stay with a affordable golf because it lessens the risk in a downturn," Lewis says. "A lot of referees are going to golf on the affordable golf courses, so we see that as a major focus for us."

While ChikLink and Granite chase existing golfers, Eaglequest of Vancouver is buying up disreputable and golf courses in an attempt to make money from younger, less experienced players. Golf courses generally offer shorter golf courses and expert instruction to people who do not have time to play a full 18 holes. So far, Eaglequest has purchased 34 driving ranges and golf centres in British Columbia, Washington and Texas. Eaglequest president Garnett says the firm hopes to have 100 by 1996. "We are going at full speed," he says. "We had underestimated the potential for growth in the industry and the scope of the opportunity."

As part of its growth strategy, Eaglequest recently hired Richard Zohal, a Canadian golfer who has spent 15 years on the PGA Tour, to be its education coordinator. Now, at the company's state-of-the-art facility in Capistrano, B.C., customers can play a nine-hole course or practice driving golf balls under the watchful eye of an instructor. Like Simmonds and Lewis, Garnett believes the industry is just taking off. "The other side of the coin is Tiger Woods," says Garnett, referring to the 21-year-old native of Cypress, Calif., who is golfing's latest sensation. "He has opened up the whole market to the younger generation." That should make the country's golf courses even hotter and club owners even richer. □

leased in April by the Royal Canadian Golf Association. It concluded that nearly a fifth less Canadians have taken up the sport in the past seven years. Most observers expect the growth to accelerate. "Everything on my radar screen suggests we're in for a growth spurt over the next 15 years," says Mike Hough, an analyst at US&K, James Capri Canada Inc. in Toronto.

Simmonds' decision to start acquiring golf courses could not have been better timed. In 1989, just before the economy entered a deep recession, the bottom fell out of the highest golf market. Most believe that once leached \$45,000 were suddenly worth a small fraction of that. Simmonds, a chartered accountant who already owned one course near Toronto, assembled a team of investors and in 1992 floated a stock issue on the Toronto Stock Exchange. They raised \$45 million, which ChikLink used to finance the purchase of three more golf courses. Its most expensive acquisition was King

Simmonds at King Valley Golf Club: centralized purchasing helps to reduce expenses

everything from fertilizer and grass seed to golf carts and clothing that is sold through the pro shops. Vancouver-based Granite Golf even hopes to save money by transferring staff each winter from its Canadian properties to clubs in the southwestern United States.

For golfers, one of ChikLink's attractions is the access members have to winter chain-owned courses. At the Kanata Golf & Country Club, just west of Ottawa, membership costs \$15,000 up front plus as much as \$2,195 a year, but for that price members are allowed to play for free at some of the firm's other courses during certain hours. On average, ChikLink says its courses are operating at 75 per cent capacity—high enough, apparently, to allow the company to mine its fees. A joint membership at ChikLink's GreyStone Golf Club, south-west of Toronto, now lets for \$77,500, up from \$22,900 in 1994.

Profits are also increasing. After a loss of \$2.5 million in 1995,

Back to Square 1

It was more than a disappointment—it was an unqualified defeat for Canada's magazine industry. The bad news came last week—on the very eve of Canada Day—when an appeals court of the General-Inland World Trade Organization (GATT) ruled against Canada. The government has lost its case to prevent domestic

periodicals from foreign competitors from making available overseas editions of predominantly U.S. magazines that keep their original content but solicit Canadian advertising. The ruling left publishers worse off than they had been since January, when the WTO filed an initial ruling in which it concluded that three of the four measures floated internationally trade laws. And the industry's poor fortune stirred late sympathy among trade experts such as Simon Branson, chief negotiator for the 1988 Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement. Branson said Ottawa knew it was risking the wrath of the United States when it introduced an illegality that on appeal was overturned in 1995, either directly forcing communications giant Time-Warner Inc. to shut out a Canadian version of *Sports Illustrated*. "I think it was a mistake," Branson said. "I think they knew they were playing with fire, but they stepped out and did it—and got their ass kicked."

Government and industry officials are now scrambling to find a new method of protecting the country's 1,400 magazines and trade magazines. And they are starting virtually from scratch. The appeals panel not only struck down the government's 80-per-cent tax on advertising, but also turned thumbs-down on postal subsidies for Canadian publishers and a 25-per-cent tax on foreign magazines that contain ads aimed at Canadians.

The unexpected defeat on postal subsidies, which the WTO had upheld in its January ruling, prompted Canadian newspapers to join in the search for alternatives. The only remaining protection for magazines is a tax measure that allows Canadian buyers to deduct the cost of advertising in domestic—but not foreign—periodicals. Even that provision could be threatened, however, by the proposed Multilateral Agreement on Investment, the treaty

Washington wins a hotly contested trade fight



Photo courtesy of Hark magazine in Toronto, publisher

whatever is required to safeguard the industry's future. "The issue would be to protect the Canadian magazine industry's share of advertising dollars," says Heritage Minister Sheila Copps. "Without that in mind, there is no magazine industry in Canada." A working group of government officials and industry figures is scheduled to submit a package of proposals to the cabinet in September. But David of Bagdad has heard in the Americas. Copps was cheerful on exactly what tactics are being considered. "We're not raising anything out," she said. In broad terms, the agreement could include changes in tax and investment laws

that would benefit magazines that are leery with Canadian content, she minister added.

Another option may be to provide direct subsidies to publishers, which the WTO would permit. But magazine owners readily admit they shudder at the idea. "I don't think we would be very healthy if we were totally dependent on handouts from the federal government for our survival," said James Warelow, chairman of Mailer's Hunter Publishing Limited, which owns Mailer's *Prose*, another industry executive said that Ottawans already have a strategy in mind and may eventually try to negotiate a settlement with the United States. Canada is required to implement the WTO decision in December of 1998.

Meanwhile, U.S. magazine publishers will be keeping a close eye on Canada's next move. At the same time, Time-Warner's vice-president of law and public policy, Lee Thompson, has not decided how it will react if new Canadian regulations shut out *Sports Illustrated* editions. Added George Gross, an executive vice-president of the National Publishers of America, an industry lobby group: "People are waiting to see what they'll be free to get into tonight Canadian content." If Canada fails to comply fully with the WTO decision, Gross suggested, U.S. publishers will resume their fight.

Even Copps admits Canada faces an uphill battle in its efforts to preserve magazines and other cultural industries. Trade watchdogs such as the WTO, she insists, fail to recognize the "importance" of national culture. Indeed, last week's ruling clearly stated that magazines are "like a product, regardless of where they are produced."

Sylvia Ostry, a professor at the University of Toronto's Center for International Studies and Ottawa's former spokeswoman for cultural trade negotiations, says the ultimate goal of the WTO and other trade bodies is to harmonize all systems. "The Canadian [magazine] issue," she says, "is a kind of a microcosm of a much larger issue, which is, 'Do we want to live in a world in which there are no differences?'"

The response from many Canadian publishers to the WTO decision appears to be no. At Armando's Barber Shop in Thunder Bay, Ont., customers regularly read magazines as they await their turn. "They read more Canadian magazines than American ones," says Bruce Preston, son of owner Armando Preston. But if Ottawa's efforts to shore up the industry fail, the shop's customers are likely to have fewer magazines from which to choose.

JOHN SCHULTZ

A Prairie dynasty

Secrecy shrouds Calgary's wealthy Mannix clan

In the history of Calgary's immensely private and largely successful Mannix family, it is almost difficult to tell how often Golden Oldies story has been told when Fred Stephens Mannix was a young contractor working on Prairie railway construction in the early 1900s. He was a skilled pole player. So skilled, in fact, that Mannix once kicked an opponent by hitting in a pair of shoes to win an earthmoving machine.

"That's how I'm told he got into the business," says his grandson Don Keimert, who operates a string of heavy-equipment dealerships on the Prairies. True enough, the anecdote adds to the intrigue shrouding a family that for three generations has provided over one of Canada's most successful business enterprises.

Over so slightly, the well-kept lid on the Mannix family last month when Fred P. and Ron Mannix, grandsons of the family patriarch, announced the proposed sale of Manulife Coal Ltd., and Pembina Resources Corp., two of the family's four operating companies. But the confirmation that the two energy companies were on the block prompted as many questions as answers. "If the sales go ahead, what will the Mannixes do with the proceeds? Why sell out to Loran Corp., the family holding company, in a sale of cash?"

Fred P. Mannix, a Loran director, is not about to divulge more than the bare minimum. "We're under no pressure to do anything. This is a business decision taken on our own initiative, at a time of our own choosing and in pursuit of our own objectives," he says. He also discloses any suggestion the Mannix and Pembina might be looking for buyers. "This decision is not a negative reflection on either Manulife or Pembina. Their operations are profitable and innovative." Loran spokeswoman Roberta Ross says that if the Mannixes do not get the price they want, Manulife and Pembina will remain with Loran, which has widespread interests in real estate, investment banking, yellow manufacturing and manufacturing. Last week, officials from Manulife Securities, which has been retained by Loran, were conducting a market evaluation of the companies. Loran officials say they could make a decision on

whether to sell privately in the end of August.

Although the Mannix brothers would not say what triggered the move beyond "current positive market conditions," two events appear to have been factors. In 1995, Pembina failed in a hostile takeover bid for Calgary-based Mark Resources Inc., which was purchased instead by a private trust—a fund that pays periodic dividends from investments in a portfolio of income-generating



Fred P. Mannix (left) with Loran president Loran Ross and CEO Ron Mannix prepare for privacy

resource properties. Last year, Loran Ltd., an Edmonton-based coal mining company owned by the Mannix family, was also sold to a private trust. Analysts say the Mannix clan is now to consider a similar strategy. It makes sense. These assets would be very attractive in a heavily volatile market, says Grant Gardiner, an analyst with Scotiabank Securities of Calgary. The largest coal mining company in Canada, Manulife produces 27 million tonnes a year from eight mines, and could fetch upwards of \$500 million. Pembina, with well-oiled gas interests across the West and producing gas fields offshore in Lake Erie, could be worth that much or more.

The Mannix family's move to toilet the trust provides a clue and living glimpse into an empire spanning three generations and across sectors to mark the beginning of a new chapter in the story of a Canadian dynasty.

structure. In the 1940s, Mannix sold the company to Bessie, Idaho-based contractor giant Morrison Knudsen as the condition that his son, Fred C. Mannix, serve as president. The family bought the company back in 1960 and transformed it into a multi-national that is now controlled as much as 100 firms. Mannix owned construction firms helped to develop the St. Lawrence Seaway, as well as roads, railway right-of-way and power stations across the West.

Fred C. Mannix, who died two years ago at 81, gradually turned the Mannix dynasty—renamed Loran—"Long-term Mannix"—over to his sons, Fred P. and Ron.

Through the years, the Mannix family has obsessively guarded its privacy, shunning interviews and declining media requests for photographs. At one time, an apocryphal story said Fred C. Mannix didn't pay the pay of his public relations staff every time the fam-

ily name appeared in the newspapers. Even most of the family's charitable contributions are handled anonymously through a separate foundation. "The Mannixes found themselves in the public eye in the early 1950s when Fred C. Mannix used the province for incorporating the family's 200-acre estate for the creation of Fred C. Mannix Provincial Park. The government allowed \$5 million and was later ordered to pay an extra \$1 million.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the family's passion for secrecy, the Mannix name imparts near reverence among many in Alberta. "They are pillars of the business community, people who earned their success and want others to respect their privacy," says longtime Calgary oil executive G. W. Goss. Loran's, the family's investment firm, once agreed to mark the beginning of a new chapter in the story of a Canadian dynasty.

DALE EISLER in Calgary



Manon with client Gordon Kivine discussing a financial strategy

essence they are selling mutual funds, securities or insurance. Others charge a flat-fee commission, while some are paid a salary by the financial institution that employs them. How planners are paid is no measure of the quality of their advice, says Diane Mason, executive vice president of E.S. Financial Services Ltd. of Toronto, but it could influence the type of advice they give. "If you're dealing with someone who is selling life insurance," she says, "they'll see the answer to your financial problems in an insurance product. A stockbroker will see it in your portfolio."

ASSESSING THE FUTURE

A planner will typically inquire about a client's cash flow (income and expenses) and net worth (assets and liabilities). The best planners tend to go further, assessing the person's aspirations and what they are willing to give up to achieve them. If, during the initial overview, the planner dwells on a particular kind of investment—

mutual funds, for example—it could be a sign that he is more concerned with commission than the client's financial well-being. Ideally, planners should also take account of the mistakes coming up in the client's life.

A skilled planner can help clients achieve their goals

Investment road maps

When her mother suffered a stroke in 1992, Lisa Charvátová found some daunting decisions. During the following three years she worked hard to manage her mother's savings, before coming to the conclusion that she needed expert help. One day, the 40-year-old personal instructor came across an article about four financial planners. "I called them all and met with three of the four," remembers Charvátová, who lives in Toronto. She asked each to suggest a financial strategy and then, relying on "gut instinct and comfort level," chose Robert Kott, a fee-for-service financial planner. Her advice to people seeking a financial planner? "Take your time and research it."

About 30,000 people in Canada call themselves financial planners, so trying to find the right one can be bewildering. Some tips from the experts:

FINDING A PLANNER

It is not necessary to be wealthy to benefit from good financial advice. An investment portfolio can be started with as little as \$1,000. Still, planners are not miracle workers, says Gary Martin, editor of the Canadian edition of *Personal Finance for Dummies*. Their job is to help investors reach their goals, whether the object is early retirement, saving for a child's education or just settling away enough to buy a new car.

Once an individual has decided he or

she needs a planner, the next step is to find one. Recommendations from friends, family or business associates can be helpful, but someone else's preferred style of money management might not match one's own. Alternatively, Martin suggests calling the Canadian Association of Financial Planners and asking for a list of local practitioners. Then, telephone a few to find out about their experience and style of financial management.

CHECKING CREDENTIALS

In Quebec, financial planners are regulated by the province, and new practitioners are required to take a 40-hour course. Elsewhere, almost anyone can call himself a financial planner. The best advice is to check whether the individual is certified, meaning that he or she has passed an exam and observes a code of ethics established by the two-year-old Financial Planners Standards Council of Canada. They come from diverse backgrounds. Some are accountants, while others are bankers, stockbrokers, mutual-fund dealers or insurance sales representatives.

THE PAYMENT

Some planners charge for their services in the same way that accountants or lawyers bill their clients. This may be a flat fee, a yearly fee or an hourly rate. Most planners, however, make their living from the com-

mmission they earn on the sale of mutual funds or insurance products.

Charvátová, for her part, is pleased about the way her mother's money is being managed. "An enormous burden was lifted off my shoulders." She is now a firm believer in seeking professional investment advice "unless you feel personally expert at financial planning"—a skill that relatively few Canadians claim to possess.

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Forever Young

Can hormones really stave off old age?

BY MARK NICHOLS

When Marie-France Pay, who has tasted the glories of the jet set life in France and Florida, marked her 34th birthday, the realization that she was getting older plunged her into a depression. "I saw the signs of aging in the mirror," recalls the Montreal actress, known to her friends as Missi. "I was afraid that my life would be downhill from that point on." She went to see Roman Rothenberg, a Montreal physician who specializes in aging and is convinced that a synthetic version of the human hormone *dehydroepiandrosterone* can stave off the ravages of time. Pay, who turned 40 last month, has taken several three-month courses of *dehydroepiandrosterone* each night for the past nine years. What has it done for her? "Night sleep is gone, but a great amount of energy," she reports. "I don't get colds. I sleep well. And most people think I'm in my late 20s or early 30s."

Driven by the baby boom generation, whose oldest members turn 50 this year, the anti-aging movement embraces practices and beliefs that include keeping fit, following a healthy diet and avoiding downy daily cocktails of vitamins and herbal supplements. Some adherents take it a step further, embracing controversial hormones—starting with *dehydroepiandrosterone* (DHEA)—in the hope of postponing their aging bodies to look and behave like younger ones. Underpinning the so-called life-extension boom is the work of a handful

Pay: I don't get colds. I sleep well. And most people think I'm in my late 20s or early 30s.

Photo: © Michael Ochs

of scientists whose findings seem to suggest that, sometime in the future, researchers just might come up with ways of altering the basic mechanisms of human aging (page 58) that claims that life extension is already possible for some. "Anti-aging remedies," says Richard Sprott, a deputy director at the U.S. National Institute on Aging in Bethesda, Md., "are like geriatrics' smoke and mirrors."

Modern medicine has already made an enormous contribution to increasing life expectancy, now at 75 years for men and 81 for women, roughly double what it was in Canada 150 years ago. The physicians who have emerged as the life-prolonging movement's gurus assert they are upholding legitimate medical ideals. "We believe," says Dr. Ronald Klatz, founder and president of the 2,000-member, Chicago-based *American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine*, "that the degenerative effects of aging are a treatable disease." And growing numbers of age-conscious North Americans are buying into that philosophy. Experts estimate that tens of thousands of people use synthetic or plant-derived versions of melatonin, DHEA, human growth hormone and other hormones. Steven Neri, a Chicago nutrition consultant, consumes about 20 vitamins, essential supplements as well as melatonin and DHEA. "I'd like to live to over 100—in good health," says Neri, 53. "And I think I can."

Canadian men and women are joining in the craze, but less visibly than Americans. That is due mainly to the prohibitive laws and the strict policies of Ottawa's Health Protection Branch, the federal body



HORMONE HANDBOOK

What the advocates say

NAME	USES	DRAWBACKS	AVAILABILITY
DHEA <i>(dehydroepiandrosterone)</i>	Proponents claim it helps build muscle, relieve stress, prevent cell damage, improve sense of well-being, reduce body fat and strengthen the immune system.	A mild form of acne and some other minor symptoms have been reported.	Plant-derived forms available in United States; illegal in Canada, but doctors can prescribe with permission.
Human growth hormone	Proponents claim powerful rejuvenating and anti-aging properties, including increased oxygen consumption.	At high doses, may cause rapid tumor proliferation, possible tumor promotion risk. No report clinical evidence of anti-aging effects.	Approved in Canada and United States to treat growth problems in children; in States to treat adults with low IGH levels.
Melatonin	Synthetic version mimics naturally secreted as a sleep remedy and jet-lag and time zone. Advocates say it is also a powerful agent against oxidative cell damage and boosts immune system.	Can cause headaches, bad dreams. No major clinical trials of effectiveness or safety.	Synthetic version fairly available in United States; illegal to sell in Canada, but can be imported for personal use.
Natural progesterone	Synthetic version (progestin) widely prescribed to counteract side effects (including possible breast cancer) of estrogen used to combat menopausal problems. Advocates claim a plant-derived natural form is more effective.	Federal officials say "natural" products are in fact made with synthetic versions; a Canadian substance in Canada.	Sold in U.S. health-food stores; banned in Canada; some may be imported.
Fraxiparine	Powered by antioxidants to improve memory and reduce mental fatigue.	No major clinical trials to establish effectiveness or safety.	Sold in U.S. stores; may be imported into Canada for use with a prescription.
Turkeyberry	Doctors in Canada and United States use to treat fatigue, loss of sex drive and sexual dysfunction in men. Advocates say it can also improve mood, prevent age-related depression and increase sex drive in both sexes.	Can generate prostate cancer.	Prescription only.

that oversees prescription drugs, vitamins, herbal remedies and anti-aging products in Canada. In several years, the branch has taken an increasingly tough attitude, banning or restricting a growing list of natural health products and supplements. In the United States, melatonin—like some other hormones and natural supplements widely consumed by anti-agers—is sold over the counter in health-food stores. But in Canada, while it is not illegal to use melatonin, it is against the law to buy it or sell it. Still, *Melatonin* reports it is only a subtle inconvenience that she has to drive 125 km to Burlington, Ont., to obtain her choice of youth that there is widespread concern among users of natural health products that loosening changes in international regulations could deprive Canadians of access to those products (page 52).

Under Canadian import rules, most hormones are already restricted, but the rules vary. A Canadian who is caught trying to smuggle DHEA (which can be used in various forms, including skin creams and tablets) into the country can face up to 10 years in prison. Melatonin is classified less stringently: while it cannot be sold in Canada, there is—so far—no law against citizens who have been out of the country bringing some back for personal use. Many Canadians are doing just that—and often sharing some with friends or relatives. Because of the penalties for importing DHEA—billed by some as a "super-hormone" that can build muscle, increase sexual drive and delay the aging process—Canadians who use it speak cautiously. "DHEA has made me less depressed and given me increased confidence," says a woman in her 60s living in Western Canada, who requested anonymity.

Other seekers of prolonged good health prefer not

to dabble in possibly risky hormone replacement. Instead, like Grace Kane of Hahley, N.S., about 200 km east of Halifax, they adopt a lifestyle built around exercise and a diet rich in organic vegetables and fruit, along with supplements thought to restore body balance and guard against disease. Kane, a 36-year-old veterinarian and mother of three, once suffered from multiple ailments and chronic fatigue. Since she began combining practitioners of complementary medicine 12 years ago, her health has improved dramatically. She sets great store in a commercial-grade, bleeding fibre and herbs—including alfalfa plant fibre and licorice root—which, she says, "cleanses the intestines to get rid of toxins and restores inter-organic herbs."

Some mainstream physicians question the value of over-the-counter remedies like the ones Kane consumes. But it is the use of hormones to counteract aging that spurs the most heated debate. Hormones are chemical messengers that flow through the human body, commanding cells to replicate and tissues to grow in an intricate interplay that affects everything from skin texture to sexual desire. Their production usually declines with age, and medical authorities agree that some hormone treatments can bring benefits. Estrogen replacement therapy is widely practiced to protect postmenopausal women from osteoporosis and other health problems.

But conventional medical experts dispute an alternative and probably dangerous notion that bolsters the flow of hormones in middle age can somehow slow aging. Extra doses of hormones such as testosterone and estrogen, they note, can stimulate tumor growth, and long-term use of others could have unknown repercussions. In any case, many scientists believe that there are "basic limits to the replicative life of human body cells—as the years pass, old cells increasingly predominate in the human body, forcing it to slow down and the immune system is enfeebled. 'I don't think there is any way of interfering with the hormone status of aging,'" says Leonard Hayflick, a San Francisco researcher who is a leading authority in the field. "Everything in the universe ages."

What is driving the new search for eternal youth? "The hormones belong to a generation that has always had a tremendous appetite for experience," says Grant McCracken, an anthropologist at



Rejuvenage: prescribing hormones to thousands of patients

Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum. "Now they're saying, 'I've just begun to explore the experiences of life that are open to me.' They're looking at the stereotypes in our society where, as you age, you're supposed to surrender your clients to being productive, to being yourself. And they're saying, 'No, thanks.' As well as helping to create a multimillion-dollar industry in health supplements and hormones, youth-seeking boomers are bringing new business

to cosmetic plastic surgeons, dentists and hair stylists. And they have triggered a boom in skin care products that promise to borrow a youthful appearance on the middle-aged. "This desire to look young is absolutely the driving force these days in skin care," says Sherwood McFarlane, a consultant for New York's Dermatone Inc., a firm that tracks cosmetic trends.

In bookstores, shelves grow taller with self-help titles that offer hope to seniors of crowded youth. Many, including *The Super-Ageless Prescription*, co-written by William Reichen, a Harvard-trained geriatrician and researcher who uses melatonin and DHEA (dehydroepiandrosterone, chemically derived androgen). Then there is *Dr. Ronald Klein's Great Skin Story* with HGH, in which the author argues that the hormone—available in Canada and the United States only by prescription to treat specific medical conditions—can strengthen the immune system in older people, raise energy levels, heighten sexual drive and ward off degenerative diseases. When the body's natural production of HGH becomes more widely available, writes Klein, "the reality will be an average life span in excess of 100 years."

In Rejuvenage, Canada has its own profiles of the new medicines—and of the life-longing qualities that lead to their reliance. Author of the highly technical *Melatonin and Aging* (Newsworld published in January), Rejuvenage says he has prescribed that hormone for thousands of patients over the past 15 years. His theme, scientists can help prolong life by strengthening the immune system and protecting the body from cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer's disease and osteoporosis—"electrons, freed during the synthesis of melatonin in cells, that are believed to cause cumulative oxidative damage over time." When patients who have been taking melatonin come to see him, says Rejuvenage, "they all look 30 or 15 years younger than their chronological age."

Rejuvenage, 51, has a long-standing interest in nutrition. Born in Russia, he came to Canada with his family in 1950 and attended the Royal High School in Montreal's inner-city St-Urbain neighborhood. He went on to take a master's degree in biochemistry, then a medical degree at McGill University. After graduating, he went to work at a Montreal clinic that had many elderly clients with ailments the doctors despised to do any sense. When a colleague suggested that he put together a program for Vancouver and Vaginal after moving next year. "You can still have your North American dream," says Cohen, "and live a healthy lifestyle."

in the "herbicide" the actions of other hormones during the night to restore and reuse the body."

By the time people are 40 or 50, the glands that make hormones usually started to decline, reducing the amount of melatonin it makes available. Rejuvenage, along with some other experts, believes that melatonin capsules or pills can compensate for that loss. Rejuvenage uses melatonin himself, follows a strict vegetarian diet and exercises regularly with a stationary bicycle, swimming and weight lifting. "I am not that old as my son," he says, "I play tennis and ride with 20-year-olds." Divorced, he says he dates "women anywhere from 25 to 45—my age has never been an issue with any of them." Rejuvenage claims that any healthy person who starts taking melatonin has or has 30s can expect to live for a century—or longer.

One of the first Rejuvenage's patients to use melatonin was Mimi Fay. The 60-year-old of a Chinese mother and a French father, Fay was living in Montreal with her 17-year-old daughter, Nathalie, in 1983 when she decided she needed a doctor's help. Her marriage to a Florida-based businessman was unraveling, she was suffering from a repeated allergy—melatonin was worrying about getting old—and a friend gave her Rejuvenage's name. "I've never been that when the doctor told her about his work in aging, 'I was his creation. I had always dreamed of eternal youth.' Today, she works out regularly, enjoys a real meal and is content to live every night. If she had not met Rejuvenage and learned about melatonin, says Fay, "I think my life would be completely different—I don't think I'd look like I am or feel the way I do."

Some of Rejuvenage's patients believe that they are still alive because of melatonin. A case in point is 70-year-old Dora Lewinstein. After doctors diagnosed her osteoporosis, which had begun when she was 19, she had three operations followed by radiation therapy. Then, in 1983, cancer resurfaced in her lungs. This time, her cancer of osteosarcoma, a breast cancer often treated with surgery, doctors said they could not operate. Lewinstein turned to Rejuvenage, who suggested melatonin. Now, she is convinced that the hormone saved her life. "I never take it in May because that's the longest cancer but it sticks it quickly and smaller nodules in her lungs. This year, she also credits melatonin with giving her new energy. "I feel better than I did 15 years ago," she says. "I've not lost nights playing bridge or going to the movies."

While Dora Lewinstein's story is striking, isolated cases do not

AN ETERNAL QUEST

By 1513, explorer Juan Ponce de León's once-promising career had gone remarkably sour. His Spanish colonial master had fired him as governor of Puerto Rico and seized his property. And at 53, given the abbreviated life spans of the late Middle Ages, time was not on his side. So it was likely with hope tinged by desperation that Ponce de León sailed from Puerto Rico in March of that year. His objective—according to legend—was to find a miraculous fountain of youth that supposedly lay somewhere to the north and west. What he found instead was Florida. When he returned there eight years later to resume his quest, he was nearly wounded by an Indian arrow and died soon after.

These Latin American legends of Spanish questing, mysterious, Indian-healing colonies in the New World in the 16th century. But if he really went looking for perpetual youth, then he belongs not of history, because old age and its ultimate implications have never had much

appeal. "It's not that I'm afraid to die," movement Moody Allen once said. "I just don't want to be there when it happens."

In real life and fiction, it is a widely shared sentiment: Faust sold his soul to the Devil in exchange for youth, knowledge and magical power. Long ago, the rich sought the rejuvenating elixirs and powers of witches and alchemists. Now, they pop pills and travel to exclusive Swiss clinics that promise to slow the march of time. "To win back my youth there is nothing I wouldn't do." Once he was in a Mormon of No Importance, "except take exercise, get up early or be a useful member of the community."

With permanent adolescence clearly out of reach, the only alternative is a longer life. Nurture by modern medicine, increasing numbers of people are reaching 80 or 100 and beyond. There are 80-year-olds who play tennis, ski, swim and write books. "I don't feel 80," comedian Bob Hope told an interviewer in 1983. "In fact, I don't feel anything but noon, and then 20 years for my nap." But a longer life, whether as sickness or in health, is no more than a hope. And it would probably not have appealed to Ponce de León.

RAE CORLETT



Calorie-conscious in good health, and happily not look after itself

THE EATING-RIGHT APPROACH

Cherish Cohen was a 14-year-old growing up in Wales when her father was stricken with stomach cancer. He survived, but his brain with a deadly disease changed his daughter's life. "I knew that someday I would be lonely and I would feel that I could make a difference, she became a vegetarian and studied herbals in England." In 1988, Cohen settled in Canada and, today at 34, she owns a Vancouver herbal store and a clinic specializing in alternative therapies. She calls "a lot of non-vegetarians, almost all of them organically grown," avoids sugar and trans fats, takes a biotin to work on their eyes and works out at a gymnasium twice a week. But this admission is not her primary goal. "If you achieve a certain level of health in your life," she says, "longevity will look after that."

Cohen also believes it is important not to take life too seriously. "I ask people to make a commitment to fun," she says, "to do as many crazy, silly things everyday." Divorced with no children, Cohen is putting her philosophy to work in her personal life. Engaged to a farmer who lives in South Texas, Va., she stands to divide her time between Vancouver and Vaginal after moving next year. "You can still have your North American dream," says Cohen, "and live a healthy lifestyle."

to Rejuvenage, who suggested melatonin. Now, she is convinced that the hormone saved her life. "I never take it in May because that's the longest cancer but it sticks it quickly and smaller nodules in her lungs. This year, she also credits melatonin with giving her new energy. "I feel better than I did 15 years ago," she says. "I've not lost nights playing bridge or going to the movies."

While Dora Lewinstein's story is striking, isolated cases do not

aggressive blood physicians. They share and say many factors besides cholesterol could account for his improvement. And most conventional doctors look askance at the growing use of hormones and over-the-counter remedies, which, they say, could have dangerous consequences. "People are acting on the basis of anecdotal evidence," says Dr. Kenneth Rockwood, Halifax-based president of the Canadian Society of Geriatric Medicine. "And with some of these substances there is no data, we don't know what the long-term risks may be." Rockwood cites the case of a patient who died of chronic pancreatitis poisoning after consuming large numbers of vitamin tablets that contained traces of the steroid. Says Rockwood: "That kind of thing risks a year's work."

At the heart of the issue is the fact that few of the hormones and herbal supplements touted by proponents have undergone the multi-stage clinical trials that are required before prescription drugs can go on the market. In the United States, a 1994 law exempts natural ones, DHEA and most vitamins and supplements from that requirement by classifying them as nutritional supplements. No such category exists in Canada, any product that makes health claims is considered a drug. And under the HPB's rules, health claims must be supported by persuasive evidence.

But the idea of testing substances like testosterone and DHEA in large-scale human trials has foundered so far on a hard economic reality: naturally occurring products cannot be patented. That means there is no financial incentive for drug companies to spend millions of dollars in clinical trials. In any case, proponents argue that some hormones like testosterone have already been subjected to more trials smaller-scale studies—and that there are few reports of serious adverse reactions. Dr. Willem Lefkowitz, who practices complementary medicine in Chester, N.S., 60 km southeast of Halifax, recommends testosterone to his patients. He wants them to relax its rules and "start looking at what works, what is reasonable. It's to distract that Ottawa is prescribing people from using things that could help them."

Despite Ottawa's protective policies, there are signs that Canada's doctors may increasingly turn to hormones to offset the effects of aging in their patients. For one thing, some physicians are developing an interest in hormone-based therapies. Dr. Barbara Fischer, who practices family medicine in Abbotsford, B.C., plans to start studying this fall for certification by Rista's academy. She already recommends testosterone to patients with sleeping problems and has obtained HPB permission to treat two patients with DHEA (one suffers from the autoimmune disease lupus, the other has menopausal problems) and low DHEA levels. Fischer, 50, thinks anti-aging medicine "is the new frontier. People want doctors who see a broader picture, and don't just hand out pills."

At Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, hundreds of testosterone-encompassed endocrinologist Jerald Buzen when he appeared for volunteers for a study of testosterone replacement in older men. But, who wants to have a needle in his arm, study by October, said: "There is an astonishing number of men out there with low testosterone levels." That condition's symptoms can include a decline in sexual drive, as well as overall feelings of



Dr. Albert's hormone therapy 'works very well for me. I feel excellent.'

'STAY AS YOUNG AS YOU CAN'

Richard D'Albert, amateur boxer and marathon runner in his younger days, is not one to surrender mindlessly to the ravages of time. He has always taken good care of himself. Now he feels he looks "pretty good" for a 67-year-old. (D'Albert still jogs twice his home in Con Mills, Ont., and works out with weights four or five times a week. As for diet, he eats some meat, but the emphasis for this "big broccoli and tomato eater" is on fruit and vegetables. But that is not all. D'Albert regularly takes vitamins and supplements, including echinacea (which he believes strengthens his immune system) and chromium picolinate (to build muscle and generate energy), and fortifies himself with a whey-based protein supplement. And he takes three milligrams of melatonin every night. The hormone, he says, "is a natural substance in your body that departs with age. Replacing it works very well for me. I feel excellent."

Born in Britain, D'Albert was raised in New York City where he boxed, studied acting and had some small parts in movies. Later, he worked as a nightclub manager and, after coming to Canada in 1973, earned a living selling broccolis. Married once but long since divorced, D'Albert has a steady girlfriend. In retirement, one of his main goals is simply to keep fit and healthy. "It seems to me," says D'Albert, "that it should just be second nature for everybody to stay as young as you can as long as you can."

weakness and fatigue. "Testosterone replacement is often seen to help," says Buzen, yet relatively few North American physicians prescribe the hormone. Now, says Buzen, there is growing evidence that testosterone can have a rejuvenating effect on older males. "I think we are on the threshold," he says, "of more widespread hormone replacement for men."

If that day comes, and if the medical establishment gradually extends approval for the use of other hormones such as those that could help people to fight and look better as they age. But—live now or later—it seems unlikely that hormones, supplements and a healthy lifestyle will succeed in extending people's life spans much beyond those of their parents. Even some of the leaders in the field are realistic about their chances. "I know my fate," says author Kogelberg, who turned 72 on July 12. "I'm not going to live forever. Immortality is not the issue—quality of life is."

Montreal's Missy Fay concurs—but she also wants her life to continue for as long as possible. "I feel young at heart, and I want to stick around for a while longer," she says, adding to all seriousness. "I'm maybe 550 years." The real youth may be an impossible dream, but as business gals into their second half-century gobbling their pills and supplements, they seem determined to attain it—or be trying to.

Close-ups of life

Scientists gain new insight into how people grow old



Helminths, if altered genes can give longevity to worms, could the same be done in humans?

Two experiment and only (about 1/25th) of an inch long, the worms that live in Shatirad Helminth's Montreal laboratory are identical to the naked eye. *C. elegans* like these, called nematodes, inhibit most cells in most Canadian backyards. But Helminth's nematodes are special. Slow to mature, they wriggle and grip their staple diet of bacteria at a lachrymatory pace—and live to the ripe old age of two months, more than five times the normal nematode life span. Helminth and his McGill University research team—who isolated worms with mutant genes that made them unusually slow developers, then bred them through successive generations—named scientists when they announced their first early last year. Since then, Helminth has demonstrated that humans share at least one of the unusual genes—in its nematode form. And that raises a tantalizing prospect: if altered genes can give super-longevity to worms, could the same be done in humans? Helminth's answer is, maybe someday. But would any one really want to do it? One problem, speculates Helminth, might be that humans with greatly extended lives would live very slowly—"their sense of being slow wouldn't be the same, they'd just be crawling along."

Helminth's insights into nematode longevity join a growing list of discoveries—including a number by Canadian scientists—that are transforming the study of aging. Coming at a time when baby boomers are working ways of clinging to their vanishing youth, science's growing grasp of the mechanisms underlying aging has raised hopes of a quantum leap in longevity. After all, science has gone a long way towards achieving that already. At the start of this century, most Canadians died in their 40s. Now, thanks in large part to modern medicine, Canadians live 25 to 30 years longer than that, on average. Some people last considerably longer: Jeanne Calment of Arles, France, marked her 123rd birthday in February and is still going strong. Given the strides being

made by scientists, could 130 become the norm? Or even 150 or 160?

While few scientists are prepared to say that will never happen, it is not likely to be soon. One reason is that the very findings that hint at ways of extending life reveal new knowledge of the obstacles that would first have to be overcome. Helminth's findings with worms illustrate the problem: the apes have had bare part of a master control system that synchronizes many of the worm's basic biological functions, including not only aging, but cell cycles and behavioral rhythms as well. So far, Helminth has located four of the nematode genes that govern this system. But he suspects there are others—perhaps 10 out of the worm's total of 17,000 genes.

The human complement is much larger—it takes about 100,000 genes to code for all the proteins that construct a human body—and no one knows how many of those may govern aging and the age-related physical processes that change over the years. Once they are identified, could all of these genes somehow be re-engineered to duplicate what happened in Helminth's worms? The kind of genetic engineering it will take to bypass the abilities of cutting-edge research. And another possible approach—selecting people from families rich in centenarians to breed a new species of long-living humans—would raise the spectre of experiments associated with the Nazi era. Says Helminth: "You can't compare humans and worms."

Enlarged view of a nematode, conditioned to live five times longer than normal

Complexing association about how humans longevity might be increased is the fact that scientists are divided over the underlying causes of aging as if death. He (and his) believes that wear and tear in molecules—the accumulation of tissue damage by disease, dietary factors and toxins finally kills organisms. But other experts say there are fluid biological factors to life. In 1961, Leonard Hayflick, now an anatomy professor at the University of California, defied the Trail by demonstrating for the first time that healthy human cells age and die after about 50 divisions. Most of which occur early in life, when tissues and organs are being formed. Only cancer cells go on dividing past that point.

Wrinkled skin, greying hair, drooping flesh—all the depressing signs of bodily decline—have the same evidence of the aging of cells. As we age, the production of protein—to maintain tissue and strengthen the immune system to ward off disease—becomes erratic. Indeed, Hayflick suggests that helping older people fight disease is probably the only route to an increase in human longevity. But these plans will likely be modest. Increasing deaths by cardiovascular disease, stroke and cancer, he estimates, might add another dozen years or so to human lives.

Calvin Harley, who works in Martin Park, Calif., part of the San Francisco, in another Canadian at the forefront of age-related research. His work encompasses both the fundamentals of aging—and new approaches to delaying major diseases. In April, 1994, Harley was a researcher at McMaster University in Hamilton, when he and two colleagues reported that an enzyme called telomerase was at work in most types of cancer, helping cells that would normally age and die to acquire immortality. The function of telomerase is to repair 100,000 segments of a cell's genetic material that are nibbled away each time a cell reproduces. As the telomerase dwindles away, the cell becomes old and incapable of dividing. But, in cancer cells, it soon erases the telomerase intact, and the cells thrive.

That discovery opened up several breathtaking possibilities, including a cure for cancer if researchers could find a drug to safely block telomerase, they could halt tumors in their track. Harley is now research director

at Genentech, a firm that is trying to develop drugs based on age-related findings like his. And a host of scientists think the gene that has come up with prototype chemicals that may hold the promise of eventually making that cancer breakthrough.

The reverse process could be just as dazzling: somehow using telomerase to extend the lives of ordinary cells. The trick will be to activate telomerase in cells without triggering cancer. One lead that Harley is pursuing comes from the behavior of lymphocytes, white blood cells that the body's immune system mobilizes to attack foreign invaders. As lymphocytes battle infections, they multiply rapidly, an activity that takes a heavy toll on their telomeres. But the lymphocytes are able to keep going because telomerase is temporarily activated to extend their lives. "If we can understand more," says Harley, "we might be able to borrow that mechanism and use it to extend the lives of some cells."

Harley envisions such a technique being used in specific tissues to treat diseases or injuries. It might be a way, for example, to treat atherosclerosis, a disease in which arteriosclerotic damage to blood vessels produces more than 500,000 deaths each year and can lead to heart attacks and strokes. If doctors could temporarily activate telomerase, the cells' lives would be extended to prevent the disease. Could that approach eventually be used to increase overall longevity? "We can address healthspan," says Harley, "and that could improve maximum longevity. But aging is such an enormously complex process—I don't think it's feasible at this stage to address life extension."

In practical terms, some experts think there may be a way for people to live longer—simply by eating less. In 1954, American scientists discovered that laboratory rats lived, in some cases, twice as long as after being fed a diet that had all the necessary nutrients, but fewer than normal calories. Sixty-three years later, there is still no evidence that it will work in humans. But new research suggests it may be true of monkeys, which are among the mammals' closest animal relatives. A study published last year by the U.S. National Institute on Aging in Bethesda, Md., showed that monkeys with calorie intake 30 per cent below normal had lower body temperatures—a condition the researchers speculate might improve cellular repair processes and prevent some types of tumors.

Science is silent on finding more basic clues. At McGill, medical professor Dr. Eugenia Winer is organizing a survey that will try to determine which genes allow people like Jeanne Calment in France to live so much longer than others. Wang plans to examine the genetic makeup of about 4,000 elderly people from around the world. The next step will be to determine what is different in the genetic endowment of people who have shorter life spans. "If we find that certain genes are bad," says Wang, "we can try to find ways to reduce risk factors for people with those genes."

But where will knowledge of longevity-enhancing genes lead? Beyond adding to the sum of human knowledge, Winer is not sure. The position, she acknowledges, is that "people will want those genes," and giving people new genes is simply not possible—yet. Until that time, Wang, like most other scientists, believes that eliminating disease is the only practical road to life extension. For all the talk of immortality, she says, "the knowledge of how and why humans age adds. Helminth, what will help people live longer right now are things your grand-dad should have told you—don't smoke, don't eat too much, don't work too hard." And eat plenty of vegetables.



MARK NICHOLS

Rumor and fact

Every day, Robert McMaster takes more than 40 pills and capsules of vitamin and mineral supplements, all available in health-food stores without a prescription. "I have a set with each meal and a few between meals," says the 45-year-old Toronto historian who now works as a consultant and advocate for the natural-health-care industry. His regimen includes one-gram tablets of vitamin C—16 times the recommended daily dose—aimed at boosting his immune system, a calcium and magnesium tablet, and vitamin E, which he believes can provide protection against cancer. But McMaster fears he and countless other Canadians will soon have to curb their supplement-taking habits under proposed international guidelines limiting the doses and types of vitamins and minerals sold over the counter. "There is a whole category of consumers whose health would be in jeopardy if they did not have these vitamins available to them," he says.

McMaster's concerns—unsubstantiated, according to Health Canada authorities—are widely shared among North American health-food proponents. Fears run rampant that powerful pharmaceutical firms are conspiring to take over the burgeoning health-food industry. The guidelines in question are under consideration by the Rome-based Codex Alimentarius, a 154-nation UN commission set up in 1962 to set standards to safeguard health and harmonize the international food trade. Disputes in the Codex committee on nutrition and foods for special dietary uses are causing two options for limiting doses and types of vitamins and minerals to be considered: one to maintain good health or to the amounts that are proven safe.

Either way, says Don Sussnerfeld, marketing manager for three health-food stores in Vancouver, consumers would need prescriptions for many now-common supplements. That, he adds, would boost prices tenfold and threaten the livelihood of many people working in the field. "The pharmaceutical industry sees this huge potential," says Sussnerfeld. "My personal feeling is there is a major conspiracy to infiltrate the industry and to support governments who regulate it." Such views find support in sensational accounts on the Internet, replete with warnings that German drug companies with "deep roots in the Nazi party" and the Life Extension Foundation based in Hollywood, Fla., plan to use to deprive the world of rare, powerful vitamin and mineral supplements.

The reality is far less sinister. To begin with, Canada is not subject to the Codex guidelines since they would apply only to vitamins and minerals that are classified as food. Ottawa's Health Protection



Vancouver health store; author's latest in global effort to set standards will not affect Canada

Vitamin users fear a clampdown

Branch treats them as drugs. What is more, countries are under no obligation to follow Codex guidelines, says Barry Smith, an Ottawa consultant and former director of regulatory affairs at the Health Protection Branch. The Canadian disposition to Codex opposes the standards under discussion, says Margaret Chavira, chief of the branch's nutritional evaluation division, and would not recommend their adoption by Ottawa except if they are unanimously passed in Rome. "There is this impression that these guidelines can be based on us," says Smith. "That is just not true."

Smith's assurances are cold comfort in the health-food industry. McMaster is concerned that Health Canada could adopt the guidelines in the interests of trade harmonization. In that case, he argues, Canadians would lose access to some of the most advanced forms of vitamins and minerals.

Even under that scenario, Canadians could still get controlled products from the United States, which has its own legislation protecting it from Codex guidelines on dietary supplements. Besides, it remains uncertain whether Codex itself will ever approve new rules. The nutrition committee first agreed to look at regulating supply meals after a 1988 meeting that considered complaints of widespread sales in many poor countries. The guidelines have since gone through five rounds of discussion without resolution. They suffered a serious setback last month when Codex sent the guidelines back to the nutritional committee for more discussion. The next scheduled date for reconsideration—a September, 1998 meeting of the Codex nutrition committee—after a decade of talk, a much-loved threat to the rights of health-supplement users is still so much of a rumor.

ANETA ELASH



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Closing in on a cure

Antibiotics eradicate almost all ulcers

When two Australian researchers suggested in 1982 that peptic ulcers were caused by bacteria, millions of physicians scoffed. "It was hard to accept," says Dr. Joe Anderson, chief of medicine at St. Joseph's Health Centre in Toronto. "For years, we had been taught that ulcers were caused by acid." Anderson finally changed his mind five years ago, and now he treats the majority of his ulcer patients with antibiotics. Most other doctors have also come on side. After years of debate, Canadian specialists agreed in April that the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* is responsible for most cases of stomach and duodenal ulcers and can increase the risk of stomach cancer. They also accepted that peptic ulcers can usually be cured with a combination of antibiotics and other drugs. Later this summer, they will publish the first Canadian guidelines for treating *H. pylori*—a development Anderson hopes will convince remaining skeptics to start testing and treating ulcer patients for the bacterium. "The possibility now exists,"



Anderson, R. pylori causes doctors treat the bacterial infection

he says, "of an absolute cure for peptic ulcers."

That is welcome news for anyone who has experienced a peptic ulcer—a painful sore in the lining of the stomach or duodenum, the upper part of the small intestine. About one million Canadians have ulcers. And although most can be successfully treated with acid-reducing drugs, as many as eight out of 10 ulcers heal that way never within a year. That has conditioned sufferers to a lifetime of burning abdominal pain and possible complications such as stomach perforation or uncontrolled, sometimes fatal bleeding.

Until recently, doctors blamed ulcers directly on excess stomach acid and warned that the condition could be aggravated by such influences as stress, spicy foods, alcohol, smoking and caffeine. But Australian specialists Barry Marshall and Robin War-

ren began challenging that notion when they found that all of their patients with duodenal ulcers, and 80 per cent of those with stomach ulcers, had *H. pylori* in their digestive systems. Factoring wider peptic irritation and stomachs that bacteria could not possibly survive in the stomach's acidic environment, Marshall drank an *H. pylori* cocktail. Within a few days, he found the bacteria had settled in his stomach and produced the inflammation common in the stomach lining of most ulcer patients. A series of European and North American studies confirmed the Australian theory in the early 1990s, finding that 96 per cent of duodenal ulcers and 80 per cent of stomach ulcers disappeared when treatment eradicated *H. pylori*. "It was very convincing evidence," says Anderson.

Researchers still believe excess stomach acid plays a major role in ulcer development, but they are now developing a better under-

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HEALTH

standing of how their acid is created. About 40 per cent of Canadians are affected with the bacterium—likely as a result of contaminated food or water—but only about 10 per cent of those develop ulcers. According to Dr. Alan Thomson of the University of Alberta medical school, doctors still do not know why *M. pylori* triggers ulcers in some people but not in others. Nor is there yet any way to predict who among those who carry the bacteria will develop ulcers, says Thomson, co-chairman of the conference that drew up the guidelines.

But when *M. pylori* does cause ulcers, it does so in a cunningly insidious way. Once in the stomach, the bacterium damages cells that control acid secretion, resulting in the production of excess acid that can destroy stomach tissue. And while the speed-spacer bacterium does impair the immune system, it evades the body's natural defenses by hiding in the mucous lining of the stomach.

Thanks to the most recent research, ulcer sufferers can expect an earlier diagnosis—and inexpensive, practically foolproof treatment. "Ulcers have gone from being a surgical disease to one that's probably only a little more serious than a common cold," says Dr. Richard Hartz, professor of gastroenterology at McMaster University medical school and co-chairman of the *M. pylori* consensus conference. According to the new guidelines, patients with a history of ulcers no longer need to endure traditional diagnostic tests typical of involving the collection of gastric cells from the stomach or duodenum. Instead, a simple breath or stool test can detect the presence of *M. pylori*. If the results are positive, the guidelines recommend treatment with a combination of two antibiotics and an acid-inhibiting drug, taken twice a day for one week. Doctors no longer advise special diets, but do recommend healthy eating and lifestyle habits including not smoking. Most patients feel better after three or four days, says Hartz, and their ulcers heal in a few weeks. The chance of becoming reinfected within a year is less than one per cent.

Beyond that, at least two U.S. pharmaceutical companies are experimenting with new formats to eradicate existing infections and guard against new ones. Experts say that a useful *M. pylori* vaccine is still at least 10 years away. Eventually, however, it could be included in routine childhood vaccination programs, helping to prevent ulcers and stomach cancers caused by the bacterium, says Paul Slaughter, a scientist with Massachusetts, U.S.-based Astra Pharmas, Inc., an offshoot of one of the U.S. firms. Researchers are also studying whether patients with chronic acid indigestion, or dyspepsia, could be cured by taking antibiotics. The evidence so far is inconclusive. But she says it might be well to remember when the notion of an ulcer-causing bacterium was seen as nothing more than the musings of mad scientists.

ANITA KLASH

Education

Summer school

Experimenting with year-round education

The most classrooms across the country's shore at John Wilson Elementary School in Innisfail, Alta., 100 km north of Calgary, are now empty and quiet. But on July 28 those rooms will once again reverberate in 254 students enrolled in a new summer school year. John Wilson is one of 20 schools across Canada—16 in Alberta—experimenting with year-round schooling, an innovative educational schedule allowing for 11 months of classes with several short breaks. "It has worked very well for the families whose children are in the program," says Norma Lutz, principal of the Innisfail school. "And we have a waiting list of three or four teachers who would like to try it."

Advocates of year-round education say it has two distinct benefits: the reduction of so-called summer learning loss and relief from classroom overcrowding. In fact, the year-round program at John Wilson was initially established in 1986-1987 as a two-year pilot project to relieve the classroom crunch, but has become permanent. Parents were offered a choice between a regular academic year and a year-round class with three week breaks in October, December and early spring. For nine weeks of the year, the student population drops by 250, or one-third, which creates a more relaxed atmosphere in the halls and playground.

But Lutz believes that the real benefit has been educational achievement is lower among year-round students, and she is convinced that, in many cases, academic performance has improved. In a survey of students, teachers and parents at the end of the two-year trial period, more than 90 per cent approved of the program and agreed that it should be adopted permanently. "It has been absolutely great for us," says Mary



Written with students at John Wilson, improved academic performance

Ann McMoroney, whose 13-year-old son, Kyle, is enrolled in the program. "He is a bright kid, but he had trouble with the long stretches before getting a break. Now he looks forward to school."

But despite those positive reviews, year-round education has been slow to take off in North America. In the United States, 1.8 million students in 61 states attend school year-round, but it represents only four per cent

of student enrollment. "If you talk about what's best for children, it makes a lot of sense," says Charles Ballinger, executive director of the San Diego-based National Association for Year-round Education. "But if people focus on money—students, summer camps and all that—they're very reluctant to make changes."

Most frequently the switch to a 11-month academic year occurs as a byproduct of changes to the overall school system. In Ontario, Education Minister John Snobelen has asked the provincially appointed Education Improvement Commission to examine class sizes, the length of the school day and the potential for year-round schooling. In support of such broader reforms, Alberta schools began adopting year-round programs after Ralph Klein's Conservative government overhauled the province's school system in the early 1990s. "Originally, we went to year-round because of provincial cutbacks and downsizing," says Allan Nelson, superintendent of Chiro's Edge Regional School Division, which includes John Wilson Elementary. "Most people go into it to make better use of their buildings."

Educators at St. George Ross Secondary School in London, Ont., are introducing a year-round calendar for 1997-1998 strictly to promote a better learning environment. According to principal Judy Webb, all 340 students who attend the school have learning disabilities or special needs due to emotional or disciplinary problems. They will begin classes on Aug. 6 and are scheduled for two-week breaks in October, December and March, as well as one week in May before finishing in late June. Webb believes that shorter holidays should significantly reduce her students' learning loss. "Our decision to go

to year-round was based solely on improved learning and achievement," says Webb. "I believe it's the right thing to do for all students." Academically, that may be true. But for Canadians conditioned to two-month school holidays every summer, year-round remains a hard sell.

DALE FISHER on January 15
 DARC VIGOR on Toronto



Mission to Mars

Pathfinder relays stunning images



A perfect three-point landing it was not, but it was the necessary, intentionally bumpy setup for a spectacular close-up view of Earth's nearest planetary neighbor after a seven-month journey: the U.S. robotic spacecraft *Pathfinder* touched—or rather bounced—down on Mars shortly after 1 p.m. EDT on July 4 and began transmitting images from the surface. The first computer-enhanced photos showed a reddish brown, plain studded with sharp, angular boulders, and low hills looming on the horizon. “Today is a glorious day,” NASA official Peter Smith said. “Those are the rocks that may hold clues to the history of Mars.”

Despite the spacecraft's status, the mission hit several glitches. One of the air bags used to cushion the landing did not fully deflate, hindering the deployment of *Pathfinder*'s

air sacs when led, 65-cm long roving explorer, *Sophrone*. NASA engineers finally shifted the bag by raising the craft's solar panels. Next, the controllers worked to fix a radio link to the vehicle so it could safely roll down a ramp to the surface. After hours of uncertainty about the mission's future, *Pathfinder* finally reached home that it was back in contact with the rover. “We feel like we’ve

The landing area with *Sophrone* and air bags in foreground (top), alongside with 3-D glasses examine the first images: probing the planet's past

been saved, back to the party,” and rover operator Matt Wallace.

The spacecraft rests on a vast, two-billion-year-old plain known as Archa Valley. NASA scientists hoped *Sophrone* would probe the secrets of the planet by looking at rocks deposited by ancient floodwaters. The most intriguing theory is that Mars once supported life, a notion that gained credence last August when NASA announced that a meteorite found in Antarctica in 1984, and almost certainly from Mars, contained evidence of microfossils. *Pathfinder* is the first of 10 announced spacecraft that NASA will send to Mars, culminating in a mission in 2005 that will bring back rocks to be analyzed for fossils. “Landing on Mars is a pay-off—it’s exciting,” said NASA administrator Daniel Goldin. “Mars has an unbelievable pull on people’s imagination.”

DAVID JENSEN

Big-screen giants



Stewart in *It's a Wonderful Life*; Michman in *El Barzudo* (below); *Untouchables* and *Maniac*

BY ELWY YOST

They became Hollywood legends in the pre-TV era, when movies shaped the collective imagination even more than they do now. And on the face of it, Robert Michman and James Stewart had many things in common. Born nine years apart—Michman on Aug. 6, 1917, in Bridgeport, Conn.; Stewart on May 30, 1908, in Indiana, Pa.—they lived to the ripe old ages of 70 and 80. Michman appeared in more than 100 movies, while Stewart made an excess of 80. Each came to represent, for fans at home and abroad, quintessential American qualities. Both had long marriages—57 and 43 years respectively (both raised children: three in Michman's case, four in Stewart's). And both died last week. Michman of lung cancer; Stewart of cardiac arrest, one day apart.

But in reality, Michman and Stewart were very different people, and that was reflected in their screen personas. The gangly Stewart, with his bestial nasal chirp and the demeanor of an innocent, embodied the American ideal of small-town family values, including the unapologetic belief in individual enterprise. Michman expressed the individualist life in a peculiar manner: evading an aura of menace and sexuality. Michman's classic traits tended to be outdoors, whether it was the psychopathic preacher of *The Night of the Hunter* (1955) or the hard-boiled detective Philip Marlowe in *Parenthood*, *My Lovely* (1975). Stewart, in contrast, was a Mr. Smith: Good to Whaling;

no (1939) and *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946), played the community-minded idealist.

Such roles reflected the two men's diverse backgrounds. Michman lost his father in infancy and spent his teenage years roaming the country. He was arrested for vagrancy at 16 and sentenced to seven days on a Georgia chain gang. Later, he continued to wander—at times by riding the rails, he said—

Two actors defined American manhood



and worked at a variety of jobs, including nightshift bouncer. In 1940, he married his high-school sweetheart and went to work for Lockheed Aircraft on the factory floor. There, he became involved in local theater.

He made his film debut in a Hispanic comedy western in 1942, but the movie that won Michman stardom was *The Story of G.I. Joe* in 1945, which earned him an Oscar nomination for best supporting actor. His career was briefly interrupted in 1948 when he was sentenced to 60 days in jail for possession of marijuana. But, anything, his popularity grew, and audiences clamored to see him in such hits as *The Red Pony* (1949);

Earlier this decade, interviewed Michman for an TVOntario series, *Sunday Night at the Movies*. I was warmed before hand because he was reputed to dislike parents. Heavily into Sinatra, Rock, and Cold War, Michman watched the camera crew set up. His back was toward me as I touched him on the shoulder, saying, “You the man who’s going to interview you, Mr. Michman: How are you, sir?” He turned quickly, scanned me from head to toe, and replied, “Worse.” At first I was shocked, but then I burst into laughter, which made him laugh. “That was one of Graciosa’s favorite jokes,” he said, “but he could never get a laugh, so he gave it to me. I got a good laugh from you. I thank you and I am going to get along just fine.”

And we did. The man was delighted. At one point, we were discussing Deborah Kerr, his costar in *Maniac* (1950). Mr. Michman, a Second World War film directed by John Huston. Kerr played a man and Michman a woman stranded together on a South Sea island. “Debbie had her own title for *Maniac*,” Mr. Michman said. “*Woman No. 1*, Mr. Michman.”

Stewart, too, was a delight in person. Born into a prosperous hardware family, he graduated from Princeton in architecture, but soon after joined a summer-stock company. There he began a friendship with Henry Fonda, which endured despite their political differences (Stewart embraced the political right). He interrupted his career to serve as a member pilot during the War, leading 30 missions over Germany.

After the war, Fonda, Stewart was one of the great naturalists on screen. And when he teamed up with director Frank Capra in *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* (1939), he did some of his best work. In 1942, he won a best-actor Academy Award for *The Philadelphia Story*. Later on, in films such as *Alfred Hitchcock's Rear Window* (1954) and Otto Preminger's *Anatomy of a Mind* (1958), he proved he could portray darker, more complex characters.

When I interviewed Stewart in the late '70s, I told him that one of my favorite scenes was the *Maniac* sequence in Mr. Smith. He shook his head and told me of the numerous mistakes that Capra had demanded, saying that something was not right. Finally, it hit Capra that Stewart's voice should be grating, hoarse, and sinister. So, Stewart went to see his doctor and asked how he could get a sore throat. At first he believed—the doctor gave him a bottle of more potent—at least out to be a mercury solution—and said he'd do it during his long speech. It worked.

One day Stewart's most charming roles was that of the gentle, idealistic, and idealistic rabbit in *Mr. Smith* (1939). On one point his character, Elwood Dowd, utters a line that might serve as an epitaph for both Stewart and Michman, two men who spent their lives playing make-believe. “We wrestled with reality for years, and I'm happy, doctor. I finally won out over it.” □

A troubadour's legacy

Folk stars honor Stan Rogers in Nova Scotia

BY BRIAN BERGMAN

And the songs that you have left
for us/you carry by the day/it's
almost like you never went away
—Stan Stan Rogers

A native of Sydney Mines, N.S., Bruce Goffin, 35, never met Stan Rogers, but he's heard him perform in concert. But Rogers' music played a key role in Goffin's decision to become a singer and songwriter when he was a teenager growing up on an island in Cape Breton. "He was like the folk Dylan of the East Coast," he says. "He wrote me, and a lot of other people, realize that they can write about this place and the world will listen." On July 5, Goffin joined more than 40 other performers—including such folk music luminaries as Sylvia Tyson, Heather Kallio, and Vicky-Maria Carpio, N.S., for a three-day festival in honor of Rogers, who died in an airplane crash in 1983 at the age of 33, just as he was taking his creative and commercial stride. For Goffin, both the setting and the timing of what organizers hope will be an annual event was auspicious. East Coast music has never been more popular, and as Goffin puts it: "Stan was Celtic before Celtic was cool."

Ironically enough, Rogers was born, raised and lived most of his adult life far from the Maritime, where he always claimed to be a native. Rogers, whose life is memorialized in some of his best-loved songs. But the native of Hamilton, Ont., always considered Nova Scotia—where his family roots date back to 1780—his spiritual home. Rogers often visited relatives near Cape Breton, where he worked up the music—not to mention the home-made Maritime beef. And in one of his earliest songs, *Wishing the Apples Grow*, inspired by a beautiful 160th Ontario birthday, he made it clear where his affections lay: *Ontario, you know I've seen/it's place I'd rather be/now coming home to you/Tell mother she's a damn thing for me/Tell father how he's a*



The singer-songwriter: a Canadian musical legacy

By the sea is precisely where Rogers' friends, family and fellow songwriters gathered last weekend to celebrate his life and his musical legacy. As residents are fond of observing, Canada is "about as close as you can get to Ireland without leaving your feet."



Tyson: an annual tribute

The town of 1,200 has seen better times after the 1992 movie about an oil festival, the local fish plant closed and all 600 in plant. According to Troy Gremore, the town's deputy clerk and festival chairman, the musical tribute to Rogers is one attempt to bring badly needed money into the community. But the event really took shape, he adds, after Rogers' widow, Arlene, put Gremore in touch with Mich Fiedolski, founder of both the Winnipeg and Vancouver folk festivals. It was Fiedolski—a close friend of Rogers who gave the songwriter his first big break by having him play the 1973 Winnipeg folk festival—whose idea of the impressive array of talent that gathered at the festival's main stage, which was regarded as the rolling off the Atlantic Ocean.

Many of the festival performers used to travel on the same festival circuit as Rogers. Almost without exception, they describe him as the one of the best songwriters Canada has ever produced—and one of the more difficult. Scott Burns, a singer they once toured with, says Rogers recorded six widely acclaimed albums and toured relentlessly throughout Canada and the United States.

Many of his early Maritime songs, such as *Marine* and *Breakdown*, praised the seafaring brought on by the cod crisis. But by the time of his death, Rogers had seen a musical tapestry that encompassed the entire country. *The Field Behind the Pine*, which follows a farmer as he puts "mother nature's promise in the ground," is one of the most evocative songs ever written about the Canadian Prairies. And like Gordon Lightfoot's *Crossing the Rubicon*, Rogers' *Northern Passage* seems to sum up the country's existence in its rolling chorus: *Oh, for just one day, I would take the Northern Passage/To find the heart of Canada reaching for the horizon/Sea/Tearing our way through a land as wide and strange/And make a Northern Passage to the sea.*

For all the sensitivity and strength of his lyrics, Rogers was a prickly perfectionist who could often be rude and abrasive.

"There were times when you wanted to wrap his neck," laughs Kallio, a St. John's musician who, with several of Rogers' former live-in partners or stagehands who failed to live up to his exacting standards. His former colleagues agree that Rogers would have welcomed a festival in his honor. "I think he would have loved it," says folk veteran Vicky, who lives on Salt Spring Island, B.C. "He was a proud man and he had no shortage of ego."

By far the more than 2,000 who gathered in Canada, it was the music that mattered most. "The songs are really dear to the heart," said Dennis Henry, a teacher from Guysborough, 45 km north of Canada. "He wrote about the community and the people that he met here."

Inevitably the festival also stirred memories of how Rogers perished in a plane crash that killed 22 other people as he was returning to Canada from a folk festival in Kerrville, Tex. "I got him that God damn job," said festival artistic director Fiedolski, who passes and then repeats. "God damn it." For Fiedolski, and many like him, the loss of a man who captured Canada in song is still keenly felt. □

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Books

The progress of love

Saul Bellow's new novella brims with humanity

THE ACTUAL

By Saul Bellow
(Piking Press, 104 pages, \$22.95)

Old writers, it seems, often specialise in the obsolete. Towards the end of his life, Herman Melville, author of the monumental *Moby-Dick*, turned to the demanding limitations of the short story. Today did the same. And now one of America's best novelists, 1976 Nobel Prize-winner Saul Bellow, has produced an exquisitely crafted novella that could serve many of the themes that preoccupied him in earlier novels such as Humboldt's Gift and Henderson the Rain King. *The Actual* is scarcely more than 100 pages long, but it contains a universe of commentary on love, wealth and the resquing of the American ego through a society that seems increasingly lost to its own materialism.

Like several of 80-year-old Bellow's tales, *The Actual* uses a first-person narrator, an observant introvert who becomes a window through which other, more flamboyant characters appear. Harry Trifles is a middle-aged Chicago businessman who is grappling with a lifelong passion for his first love, Amy Wurkin. The great tragedy of his life is that Amy married his boyhood friend, Jay Western, a womanising lawyer who, as the novel opens, has been dead for several years. Amy, now a maturely inter-



The author, describing a society lost to its own materialism

or decorator, is available again, but Harry seems unable to act until his own friend, the seductively wealthy Segmented John, arranges to have the two former sweethearts brought together.

As a narrator, Harry makes extending company. He takes the reader into the do-

main of the rich and the would-be rich with an eye for detail that outdoes anything in Henry James. He spells out those people's moral shortcomings, too. "They were not at the full products of our mass democracy," he comments scathingly, "with no distinctive contribution to make to the history of the species, selected to pile up money or reduce women, to copulate, throw in the sick as the degenerate children of time, male but not really, and bring, the men and women alike, on the sabbath alone, without beauty, without virtue, without the slightest independence of spirit."

At the core of this vision is Jay Western—whose given name is a nod to the director of Joy Kilgus, the doomed protagonist of F. Scott Fitzgerald's 1925 classic, *The Great Gatsby*. Jay makes appearances for reality. He not only had to conquer women, he had to boast about it. Over the years, he described his amours to Harry, who thus witnessed Jay's self-destructive hunger for love and his sharing of Amy.

It sounds almost too appalling for hope. But Bellow softens his vision, partly through the unexpected kindness of Segmented. And Harry's love for Amy perpetuates innocence in an old world. Bellow, perhaps, traces an early parallel to the book's final paragraph, but it is the only false step in an otherwise spell-binding performance.

JOHN HEMMIGER

Shades of melancholy

WOMEN WITH MEN

By Richard Ford
(Little, Brown, 257 pages, \$23.95)

Until recently, Richard Ford's fiction had never reached the spectacular splash of John Updike's or Saul Bellow's, and yet it quietly won a devoted readership. When his last novel, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Independence Day*, became an international best-seller, however, the American writer seemed to have achieved a breakthrough. Now the author, 53, has written *Women with Men*, a short-story collection

that inherits Ford's intelligent, understated and touched with a haunting melancholy.

In the first of the book's three tales, "The Womanizer," Chicago salesman Martin Austin travels to Paris and becomes involved with a woman called Josephine. To say he falls in love with her would be exaggerating, because Martin saves a creature less of passion than of curiosity. He drifts through relationships in a quasi-depressed state, unrequited endlessly, and controlled by a need to make the "right" gesture, rather than the one he most deeply feels. Little wonder

he brings Josephine into Josephine's life. The story puts a compelling new twist on the old incoherent abroad theme, yet falls prey to fateism at times—the result, perhaps, of focusing on a depressed hero.

More successful is "Jazz mix," about a 37-year-old named Larry who moves his father's house in Idaho to visit his estranged mother in Seattle. With him on his journey is his mother's sister, Doris, who provides a certain erotic temptation. She also becomes Larry's guide to the underlife of the town she likes to frequent. When Larry witnesses a police arrest that ends in a killing, he takes—mysteriously and monogamously—an important

step towards maturity.

Ford's final story is "Occidentals," which also concerns Americans in Paris. Charlie Matthews and his girlfriend, Helen Carmichael, have come to the City of Light to meet the French publisher of Charlie's first novel. But the publisher is away. Paris is cold, and Helen has cancer. Her apologetic response to her disease, however, teaches Charlie a good deal about living and dying. Ford is deeply memorable here, slipping images into the reader's mind—at one point, Charlie witnesses a homeless person crawl into a cemetery vault to sleep—with all the diagnostic skill of a professional investigator.

J.B.

A frolic in the alien fun house

They came from outer space, and they're a gas

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

There is hope, and then there is hype. Hype can be bought by any Hollywood studio with sufficient cash on a marketing campaign. But buzz, a sort of industry gossip and media word-of-mouth, works in more mysterious ways. All the summer blockbusters, from *Lost World* to *Jurassic Park*, have been accompanied by hype. But from the start, *Men in Black* was the one with the hype. It all seems very familiar. Last year, months before *Independence Day* was released, you



James (left) alongside caricatures of the absurd

didn't need a literary subscription to know it would be the hottest movie of the summer. This year, the designated hit is another no-scripture starring Will Smith as a police officer space-alm both. The two movies, however, bear little resemblance. *Men in Black* is much better. And in this summer of absurdity, big-screen levitations, an "event movie" that does not treat spectacle as the

main event comes as a welcome treat.

There are still many eye-popping special effects, a surreal crowd of alien creatures great and small, but they are a welcome distraction from the movie's less-than-impressive story. The *Alien* family and *Get Shorty* keeps the alien in line with very detachment. And he puts the accent on the odd-couple chemistry between his black

and white. *Men in Black*, Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones. A body movie without the *Gladiator* trappings, this is a comedy about cool dudes with daily personas who serve as design-conscious of the absurd. *Men in Black*, however, is set in Manhattan, where strangers are perceived when until proven human.

Smith and Jones play agents J and K respectively, operatives of a top-secret government division devoted to controlling and covering up, extra-terrestrial invasions. Smith portrays the cool, calm, collected, the faded veteran. The premise, inspired by a comic book series, offers a twist on the standard space invasion plot. The aliens are already here, disguised their true forms in human bodies. At any one time, there are about 1,500 aliens on earth, most of them in New York City. It explains in a matter-of-fact tone that pervades the film. *Men* are decent folks just trying to make a living, but there is enough alien in the *Men in Black* bag.

The villain is Edgar the Pug, described as "a great cockroach with an intricate complex of spider-like tentacles played by Vincent D'Onofrio." The character is a human body that he wears like an ill-fitting suit jacket. Edgar is on a mission to annihilate the planet. But the doomsday countdown is almost an afterthought in *Men in Black*'s throwaway plot, which barely goes through the motions of suspense. Think for laughs, not thrills, the movie plays as an affectionate parody of UFO folklore. Yes, the aliens are already among us. Their ranks include flycatcher, Stollens, Nest Omelette and Dennis Redman. And agent K swears by the tabloids, which serve as hot sheets—"best damn investigative reporting around."

The movie's deadpan style is necessarily shallow, as slow-drip as the alien body suit. *Men in Black* never loses its director's cool long enough to risk emotion. Instead, the movie revels in pastiche. Black suits and Ray-Ban recall *The Blues Brothers*, the yucky slapstick of getting drenched with alien slime is pure *Gladiator*, a mid-80s E.T. makes a wistful cameo, and the creatures are reminiscent of David Cronenberg's *Naked Lunch*—the children's movie.

The combination feels fresh, and the cast has an appealing chemistry. Jones, a tough guy on cruise control, makes an ideal foil for the free-spirited Smith, who is immensely likable. Linda Fiorentino, meanwhile, adds an edge of sexual intrigue as Laurel, a New York corner who prefers the deal to the long. Her character shows up late and receives short shrift, but the ending sets her up nicely for a sequel. What more of course, the most reprehensible about this movie's success is that it makes a *Men in Black* franchise, and any number of inferior does—*MIB2*, *MIB3*, *MIB4*—eventually. □

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Allan Fotheringham

They cheered, they wept, and they left

At the magnificent midnight hour when the kumpane departed, "Miss Britannia" in a ball gown made of the Union Jack descended the stairly hotel steps—accompanied by an RAF mountaineer Col. Bling. (Fotheringham put them next "Miss China" in a brilliant red sequined slinky dress topped by a gold crown over her jet black hair. Everyone cheered, as wept.

That was the British farewell to Hong Kong at the most expensive party in town, and the next night—by dependence Day on July 1—in the same hotel there was the Miss Britannia model again. Only this time she was served upon a platter of ice as a married, blonde with a sprinkling of sparkles decorating her upper regions for all the eager male photographers who supposedly had never seen such splendour before.

This is a city of characters, all drawn to it by its mystique, its money and its crossroad status between East and West. Kipling said the town would never meet—but they do here.

The crew-cut boss of Hong Kong, C. H. Tung, appointed by Beijing, epitomizes that. He was educated in England; he chaired in this day for the storied Liverpool soccer club. He worked a decade in the United States, he claims to this day for the San Francisco 49ers.

As Southern son of a Shanghai shipping tycoon, Tung Chee-choi given names mean "Building China." Father C. Y. Tung loved the sea and revered China's 15th-century church admiral, Zheng He, who had sailed to Zanzibar. Father's wealth and power transferred, leaving son with a \$5-billion debt in the mid-1980s. But the crew cut survived. Will he prove—rejoicing Hong Kong's elected legislature—a new Beijing puppet? We will know in a year.

Nagging Thatcher, who has never met a headline she did not love, was of course here. In 1984 to outline two-tier prime ministers new Labour boy Tony Blair and the main six ladies, the Silverworld, blessed Ted Heath, the Tony PM she despised. At the banquet table in town, she ordered 18 mice, surpassed only by the price of Denmark who dined at it 37.

Canada confirmed its reputation as the Wallflower of the Western World when Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, after two



weeks of dancing while Jean Chrétien's relatives ran the portfolio, announced that he would after all attend the new millennium at the Brits and the United States of America were boycotting.

Ampar regret for the visitors who lacked here was that the famous Happy Valley racetrack (no longer the "Royal" Hong Kong Jockey Club) also Hong Kong Island—where the daily betting handle from 6.5 million Chinese surpasses that wagered by 60 million gamblers in Britain—was as usual shut down in July and August because of the heat. It is not clear whether this affects the horses, the jockeys or the punters. It wouldn't be the last named.

They still tell the story of the visit of the notoriously cheap Lord Thomson of Fleet in the 1980s, then proprietor of the Sunday Times, who was taken out for the evening by his paper's legendary Far East correspondent, Richard Hughes wore a monocle, appeared in disguise in John Le Carré and Ian Fleming books and took the party off skidline to the famous Wanchien at the Lark Kwok Hotel where the legend of Sze Yung was local.

Hughes was somewhat surprised when the sitting press been asked a bar girl how much it cost to go upstairs. When told, he scratched the price on the back of an envelope and dashed her hopes by requesting how much a room cost "unaccompanied."

Pierre Trudeau arrived, on the way to Expo 70 in Osaka, and after attending Sunday morning mass and laying a wreath at the Sa Wan War Cemetery in honor of the Winnipeg Grenadiers and Royal Rifles of Canada who died during the defense of Hong Kong in 1941, he was barred

away from the Soccer Disobedience far out wearing a jacket. He moved on to a Playboy Club in his white slacks and blue shirt.

According to a local press, Trudeau's date—a disheveled, five-foot-three girl in a red cotton flowered dress, was possibly a little owned by the whole thing. She seemed to be very shy and when they were on the floor she seemed to be waiting for Mr. Trudeau to make the first move.

The taxi driver on the way to the airport—no always representative of the coexistence man in every journalist who has ever traveled—admits he was rather choiced up at midnight on Handover Night, as he watched the multimillion-dollar fireworks bursting over the world's most spectacular harbor. It was, he confessed, somewhat like "when your timing is wrong and you have your parents are coming home."

The Hong Kong locals, on the midnight hour, realizing the rule of law and its independence in publicity and such a bad legacy after all. As the lights went down on the hand of the Crown, Kipling's heirs are left with just 340,000 bodies in British "Dependent Territories" around the globe. The smallest is Pitcairn Island, deep in the Pacific Ocean, where Capt. Bligh and all dispatched Fletcher Christian.

It has just 55 souls. And almost every one has the surname of Christian. That is the way an Empire dies.

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